



Ethel Wilson

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Finishing Furlough

It hardly seems possible, but this furlough is nearly over, and I am working on returning to Japan. This has certainly not been a “normal” furlough, nor the furlough that I expected. Due to surgery, recovery, severe winter weather, and covid, I was not able to travel to many churches. I certainly enjoyed the time I was able to spend at my home church and the few other churches I was able to visit. I’m thankful for the technology that allowed me to watch services online (sometimes multiple services) when health and/or weather prohibited me from being there in person.

The Lord certainly provided guidance and care regarding the medical situation I mentioned in my previous letter. I ended up needing a fairly major surgery (a non-cancerous colon resection). That was followed by four days in the hospital and several weeks of recovery. The surgeon had to remove more than she expected, but the Lord kept me from some possible complications that might have prevented my being able to return to Japan.

I am currently traveling to return the car I’ve been leasing and will then be flying to Washington state before returning to Japan. I am very happy that I will be able to spend some time with my brother before I return. I am scheduled to depart the U.S. on May 7, arriving in Japan on May 8. I will need to self-quarantine for 2 weeks once I arrive.

Praises

- Successful surgery and recovery
- God’s provision of a wonderful Christian surgeon
- Financial provision for my medical bills
- Rent-free places to stay during various stages of this furlough
- Safety while traveling (though travel has been limited)
- Being able to see my brother
- God’s peace regarding several decisions that needed to be made

Prayer Requests

- Safety and health for the remainder of the trip. There are some health needs still to be addressed (mostly joint issues) that I feel will be better and more economically addressed once I return to Japan, but they make travel difficult. Please pray that the Lord will keep me from experiencing too much pain since I’ve been taken off my main pain medicine because it can complicate the problem that made surgery necessary.
- My brother has developed a health issue that is somewhat common in older people with Downs Syndrome. At 57, he’s considered in the older portion of the Downs population.
- Additional financial needs, including some non-medical special needs as well as additional necessary monthly support
- God’s continued guidance in my future of ministering for Him

Thank you all so much for partnering with me as I seek to continue serving the Lord in the country of Japan. I could not be there without both your financial support and your prayer support.

In His Service,

Ethel