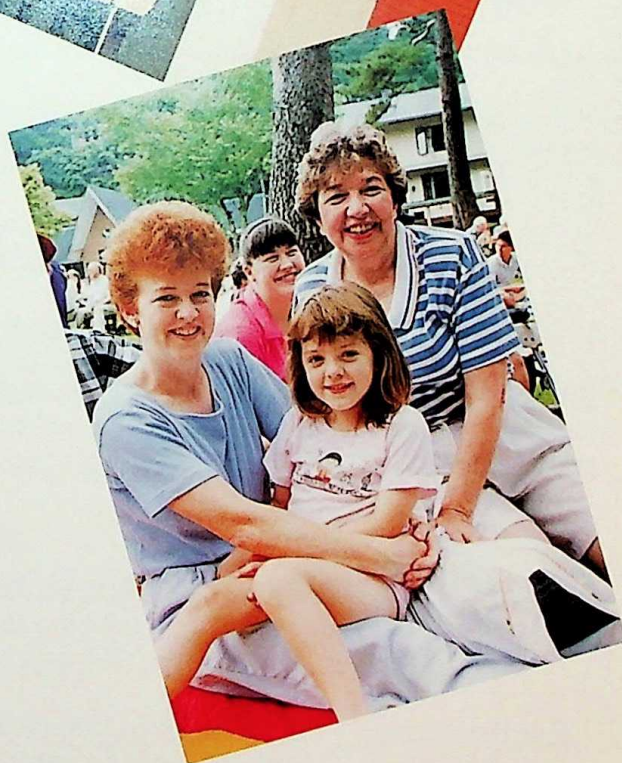
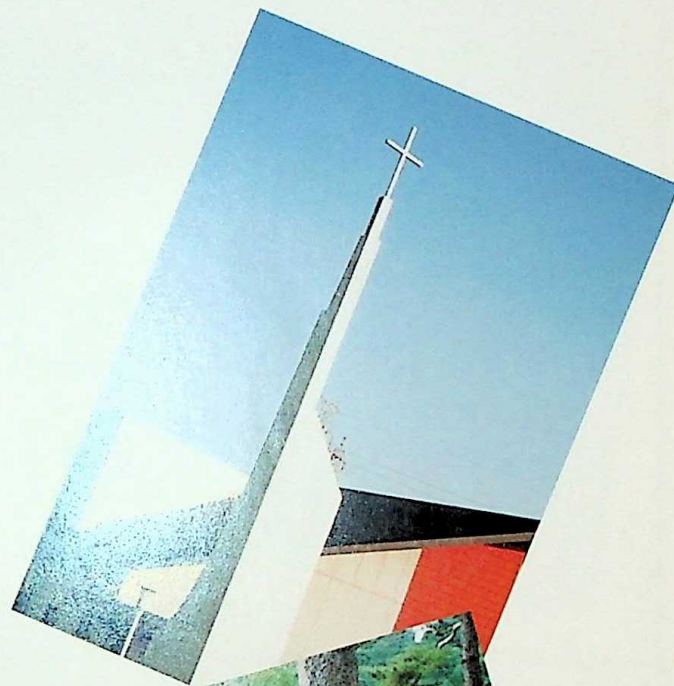
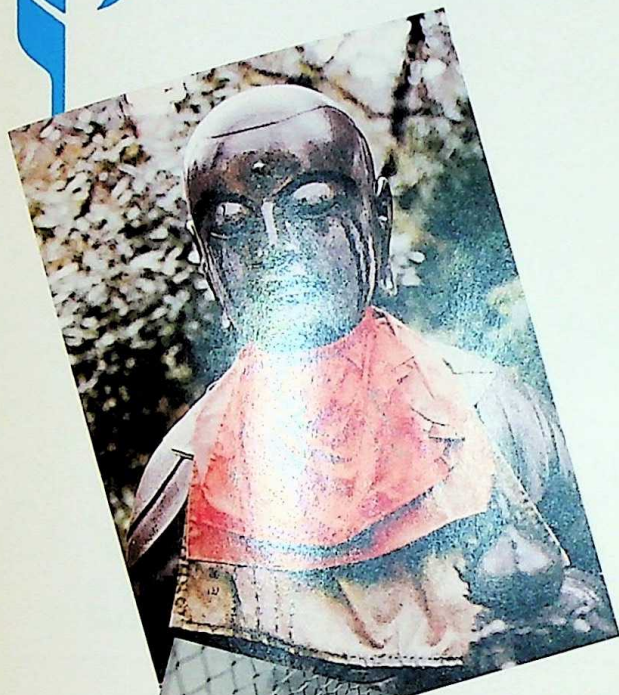


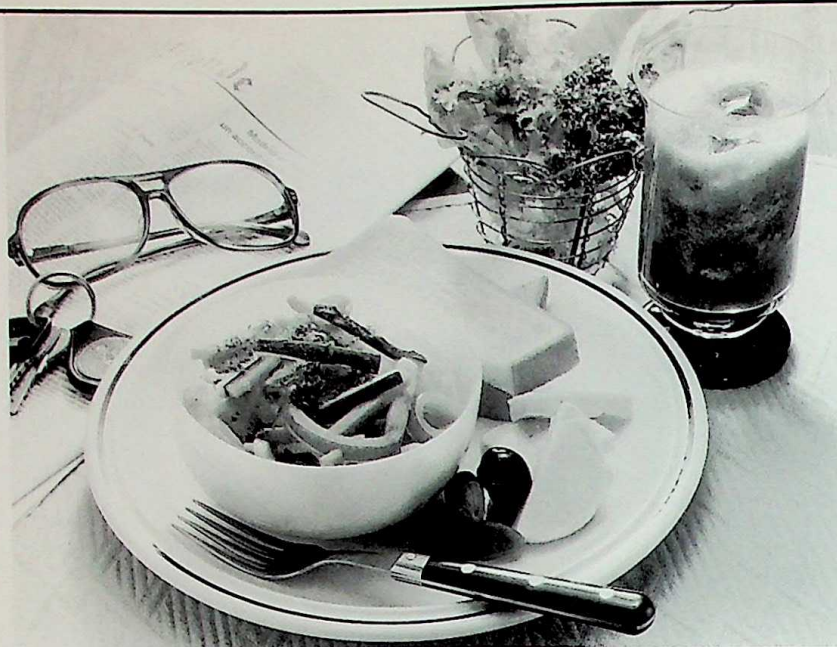
JAPAN HARVEST

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INSIDE:

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- * Y2K And You
- * Wedding Evangelism
- * Ministering in a Humpty Dumpty World



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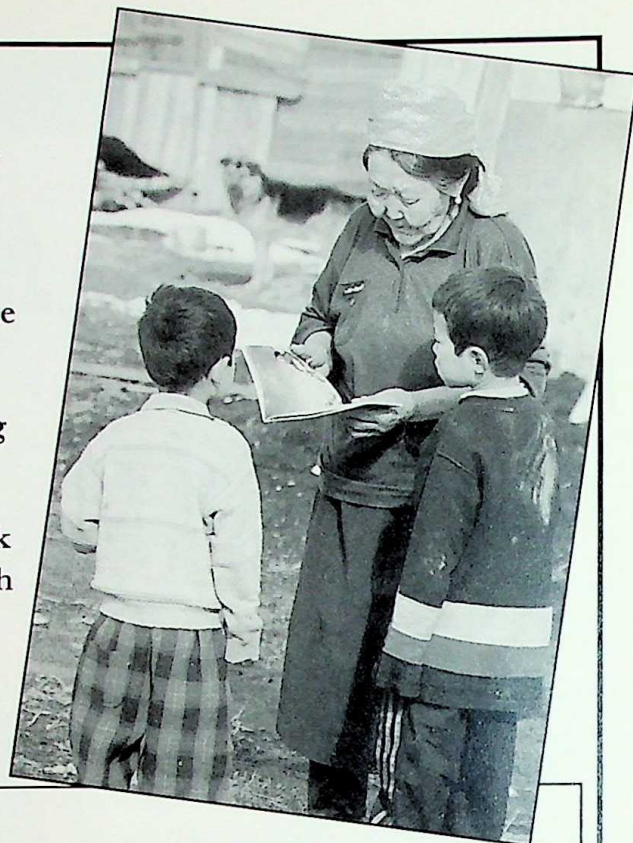
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JAPAN HARVEST

Volume 51. No. 1 / Summer 1999

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Cover Photo: *Contrasting Perspectives on Life*

The Japan Harvest is the official publication of the Japan Evangelical Missionary Association. It is published quarterly to promote primarily the cause of the evangelical church and mission in Japan, and secondarily the ministry and activities of the association. Individual articles or advertising express the viewpoints of the contributor and not necessarily those of JEMA. The editor welcomes unsolicited articles.

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President, Gerald May; Vice-President, Richard Kropp; Secretary, David Scott; Treasurer, Diana Reuter; Members-At-Large, Aashild Furukawa, Randy Hicks, Traugott Ockert
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JEMA

2-1 Kanda Surugadai, Chiyoda Ku, Tokyo 101-0062
Tel/Fax: 03-3295-1949 E-mail: jema@jemanet.gol.com

In This Harvest...

Perspectives...

In the JEMA community there is a wide diversity of ministries. There is a broad range of approaches to ministry and numerous opinions as to what makes for effective outreach.

We all have a common foundation in our belief in Scripture, Christ and the Gospel. However, there is considerable variety in how we carry out our mandate to proclaim that Gospel.

This issue focuses on some perspectives on ministry within our JEMA community. Some of it may be controversial yet, I hope, eye-opening. Though you may not agree with what is expressed I trust it will broaden your understanding of what is happening within the missions community in Japan and challenge you take a fresh look at your own work.

Inside you will find David Humble, in his regular column, presenting the moving story of a vicious gang-leader gaining a new perspective on life through Jesus Christ. Janice Kropp will brighten your day with a challenge to look at things from the viewpoint of JOY.

Donnel McLean, Warren Okerman and Doyle Book present some thought-provoking ideas challenging "tried-and-true" approaches to evangelism in Japan. Have you been reaching your "chonai?" Perhaps you need to look more closely at your church "network." Or perhaps you need to reconsider your perspective on wedding chapel evangelism.

Andy Meeko pulls no punches in confronting men with the all-too-prevalent spiritual malady of sexual compulsion, and offers some basic tools to break the cycle of sin's bondage.

We present you with some information, too, on preparations for the Y2K "bug," and how you may want to see this as an opportunity for outreach to your community.

All this and more! Again, you may not see eye-to-eye with everything expressed here, but I trust it will give you some fresh insights into your own ministry, and how, prayerfully, you might expand the impact of your outreach.

Gerald May, Editor

JEMA Windows

Gerald May, JEMA President



“Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.”

(I Cor. 12:27)

In the twelfth chapter of I Corinthians the Apostle Paul describes the corporate entity called the Church as Christ's Body. He draws numerous parallels between the parts of our physical body and the functions of believers as they exercise their God-given spiritual gifts. He makes very clear that there is a diversity in the body of Christ, and that diversity is part of God's purposeful design. Each of us, in exercising our gifts, contribute to the building up and edification of both the local church and the Church as a whole.

Having different gifts, as well as up-bringsings and kinds of training, leads to the natural consequence that we will see things in a different light from one another. Just as a toe will have a very different perspective on the world than an ear, so will

we believers perceive and interact with the world in many different ways. Those perspectives bear themselves out in how God leads us to carry out the tasks to which He calls us.

Unfortunately, those varying perspectives can also be a source of friction in the church. There are many cases of co-workers splitting up over differences in how they thought their ministry should be carried out. That same friction heats up relationships between missions and church associations. What you see as a “valid” ministry may not agree with how I interpret our Gospel mandate.

It seems that God foresaw this potential for trouble. He led Paul to follow up his discussion of gifts and the unified diversity of the Body of Christ with the well known passage on love in chapter 13. I can be the most gifted Japanese linguist and be empty without love. I can speak at all kinds of church planting seminars, and share my keen insights into the Japanese culture, but come out as a flat zero if I do not have love in my heart. I can give years of my life to the ministry in Japan, lay aside ties to the homeland, put up with heat and humidity and struggle faithfully through

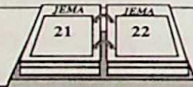
times of illness, yet still be nothing in God's economy without love.

Now, personally, I have found it easier, at times, to display a loving attitude toward the Japanese around me than to show patience towards my fellow missionaries. After all, the Japanese are the ones to whom I am called to minister...right? You and I, as ministers of the Gospel, should surely see things the same way. “You don't? Well, I have no time for you!” goes my hard heart. But, Paul's words are in the context of the Body of Christ. The love described is to be exercised, first and foremost, among believers. In fact, it is that love among believers that is to be our mark...the world will know we are Christians by our love.

This issue of the Harvest deals with several different perspectives on ministry in Japan. You may disagree with the author, and may feel compelled to respond. Wonderful! As long as the dialogue is firmly rooted in love for one another, we need not fear disagreement. “Like iron sharpening iron” we can encourage and challenge one another to a closer walk with our Lord, and greater effectiveness in our ministries.



JEMA



Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Place
July 29 - August 1, 1999	JEMA Summer Conference	Karuizawa Union Church
September 27, 1999	WIM Day of Prayer	SEND Center, Higashi Tokorozawa
September 29-30, 1999	Kansai Women's Retreat	Bethel House, Kobe
October 4, 1999	Tokyo Day of Prayer	Ochanomizu Christian Center
November 8 - 11, 1999	CPI Conference	Megumi Chalet Karuizawa
February 20-22, 2000	JEMA Leadership Consultation	To Be Announced
February 22, 2000	33rd JEMA Plenary Session	Ochanomizu Christian Center

JEA Conference Confronts the “Kimigayo”

Almost 100 delegates representing their respective church or para-church organizations gathered in Shizuoka from May 31 to June 2 for the Japan Evangelical Association's 14th Annual Conference.

Men and women from 43 church associations and 29 mission or evangelistic organizations met to interact on issues related both to JEA as an organization and cooperative ministry in Japan and the world. Two key presentations were given. One was a detailed report on preparations for the 4th Japan Congress on



Evangelism to be held in Okinawa in June of 2000 (please see insert material in this issue). The second was the proposed text for a letter to the government of Japan opposing the standardization of the “Hinomaru” flag and the “Kimigayo” national anthem.

The proposed letter generated considerable discussion, and was sent back to the JEA Executive Committee, with several amendments, for a rewrite. Final approval will be requested by letter ballot. For your information the text of the amended letter is included below.

Against “Hinomaru” and “Kimigayo” being legislated as the National Flag and National Anthem of Japan

*To: Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi
Speaker of House of Representatives, Mr. Soichiro Ito
President of House of Councilors, Mr. Juro Sato*

We, the Japan Evangelical Association (JEA), are members of the World Evangelical Association which has 150,000,000 members in 105 countries, and are also members of the Asian Evangelical Association with affiliations in 16 Asian countries. Among Protestant believers of Christianity in Japan, we serve as a support organization composed of 1,792 churches, denominations and organizations and have 102,984 members who attach great importance to the Bible, and are eager to obey its doctrines. We who have gathered at the 14th Plenary Session of JEA wish to express our strong opposition to the attempt by the Japanese Government and the party in power to carry forward legislation formalizing “Kimigayo” as Japan’s national anthem and “Hinomaru” as the national flag.

“Hinomaru” is the symbol of Japan’s aggression and colonialism toward and among other Asian people during the Pacific war. We are very concerned that legislation formalizing “Hinomaru” as Japan’s national flag be carried forward without making earnest apologies to these Asian nations. Further, although we love Japan genuinely, deeply and strongly, we feel that the “Kimigayo” not only contains words and phrases that are in direct conflict with the position and significance of the Emperor as described in the Constitution of Japan, but also in conflict with the spirit of sovereignty as it rests in the people of Japan and the principles of Democracy. From our position of faith in Christ, who is the only Lord for we Christians, the “Kimigayo” contains words that are unacceptable for us to sing. (We desire, at the earliest possible date, a composition of the national anthem that is acceptable to all Japanese.)

We, the Japan Evangelical Association, adopted at our 10th Annual Meeting, held in 1995, the “JEA Declaration on the 50th Anniversary of Postwar Japan,” expressing our repentance before God over the sinful acts of Japanese churches in supporting the invasion of other Asian countries by the Japanese military, and we wholeheartedly apologized to the churches in those countries and asked them for their forgiveness. In accordance with this resolution, we stand strongly in opposition to the furtherance of legislation formalizing “Hinomaru” and “Kimigayo” as Japan’s national flag and national anthem.

“DON’T YOU WANT TO HAVE

By David E. Humble
Harvest Time Ministries Staff

At a little past 5 a.m., Eiji Noda puts on his work gloves and grabs a broom from the storage closet. As he sweeps up the leaves out front of the building, he looks no different from the many other Ikoma Bible College students who attend to a disciplined schedule of work, devotions, and study.

However, only four years ago, Eiji Noda was very different from everyone he now meets on campus. Then, the utensil in his hands was not a broom, but a metal bat he used to smash out the windows of dozens of police stations. Before he was through as one of the meanest motorcycle gang leaders in Osaka's history, however, Noda would see more than just glass broken in his own life.

Noda, now 23, appeared as a guest on Harvest Time in April and traced the beginning of his private war with the world to a childhood scarred by his mother and father's divorce. In an attempt to cover up the loneliness that increasingly possessed him, Noda began to spend his mother's money on whatever he liked, and do whatever he liked — including fighting, smoking, and generally gaining a reputation at school as a troublemaker.

"I really wasn't any good at studies or sports," he said, "so I started going out and stealing scooters and things and riding around all night. By the time I finished junior high, I was more than ready for the gang life."

At 16, Noda had already been arrested once and he quickly rose through the ranks to become leader of his motorcycle gang. His reputation as a vicious and aggressive fighter gave him the respect he needed to lead his group of about 60 boys in thievery, drug selling, and generally terrorizing the neighborhood.

Det. Toshikazu Yoshinaga, who worked with Noda and is currently section chief at the Suminoe Police Headquarters, verifies it: "Yeah, he was definitely a real problem back then."

Noda said that, in looking back, he can see how out-of-control he was. "I fully gave myself over to it just for the thrill of it. By that time, my mother was wishing I had never been born."

Noda's older brother, a member of Japan's Self-Defense Forces and a believer in Jesus Christ, began to talk to him about where his life was heading and asked him point-blank: "Eiji, don't you want to have eternal life?" Noda thought that his brother had surely gone off "the

deep end," but he greatly respected his brother and agreed to go to church with him.

"I don't remember anything the pastor said in his sermon that day," Noda recalled. "But one verse he read from the Bible stuck in my mind so vividly: 'The wages of sin is death' (Rom. 3:23). I couldn't get that thought out of my mind."

However, life for Noda not only didn't change, it got even worse. The pattern of violence escalated, as fights with rival

getting caught, 19-year-old Eiji Noda's luck ran out when he was arrested for the fifth time and quickly found himself in custody at the Juvenile Classification Office. This was his fourth incarceration there and he began to take stock of his life. Though feeling little in his now-hardened heart, somehow the words he heard once before in church broke through the fog to assail him with piercing clarity: "The wages of sin is death!" His heart, he said, became filled with the reality of his own

"We had teams that would go out and commit murders, steal, beat people up, and just commit vicious crimes of all sorts. In every way, we became the slaves of sin and evil."

gangs became more frequent. Noda began to carry a knife in his pocket and showed no qualms whatsoever when it came to using it against his enemies. Noda found himself settling into this new level of brutality in life with amazing ease.

"Our gang's whole motivation for living," he said, "was to make a name for ourselves that would strike fear in the hearts of everyone. We had teams that would go out and commit murders, steal, beat people up, and just commit vicious crimes of all sorts. In every way, we became the slaves of sin and evil."

Though trying his best to keep from

foolishness and his life's impurity. Thoughts of the "wages" due him for his own sin began to grip him with fear. With this realization, a hunger to read the Bible his brother had given him began to take over.

"What I read at first just made my head hurt," he said. "I didn't understand much. But I was scared and suffering from my own sinfulness, so I began to believe in Jesus little by little. I had a sense that the Bible spoke with real authority."

Still half in doubt, half in faith, the old "down deep inside" Eiji Noda was far from dead. Repeated violence against other inmates and fights with guards tabbed



IN THE COMPANY OF THE REDEEMED

Eiji Noda (third from left) spends much of his free time trying to reach out to gang and street kids through the ministry activities of Disciple Church in Osaka's Ikuno Ward. Noda, himself a former motorcycle gang leader, says he is constantly encouraged by how powerfully God's Word touches these kids' lives. The producers of TBS television's "News23" program made Noda and Disciple Church pastor Yasuhiro Kanazawa the subjects of a Special Report segment on an October 20th broadcast last year. The segment was entitled, "Ikikata Kaeta Otokotachi."

ETERNAL LIFE?"

Noda as a troublemaker and facilitated his transfer to the Juvenile Detention Center – the last stop for incorrigible juvenile offenders. Noda said that as he continued to read the Bible, the bitterness and violent feelings he had toward others inside of him began to come to the surface and be revealed to him as the ugliness that it truly was.

"The Holy Spirit began to work in me," he said. "I fasted and began to truly repent of my sin. As I read the Bible, I became aware of the sin that it revealed and I immediately went to God in prayer for forgiveness. And I soon found myself so changed that I was constantly trying to introduce the God of the Bible to the inmates around me."

After being released, Noda said that he had to make a clear decision to separate himself from those friends who were now members of organized crime groups or were involved in criminal activity. In place of that, he determined to follow this new life in Christ with all his being.

spends much of his non-study time working with former Yakuza gangster Yasuhiro Kanazawa, pastor of Disciple Church in Osaka's Ikuno Ward (cf. *Japan Harvest*, Vol. 50, No. 4). The two visit the local haunts of troubled kids, – like the busy Umeda area in Kita Ward – and often run into many of Noda's former gang friends. Often catching them between sessions of sniffing paint thinner, they talk to them on the street about Jesus.

"The number one characteristic of these kids is loneliness," he said. "They are isolated and hopelessly alone in their struggles. In meeting Christ, the biggest change in my life was in my attitude toward people. The message that loving others is possible when you know that God loves you revolutionized my life and gave me real hope. Now, among the kids we take in at the church, we're seeing the same thing. Even the worst of them are being changed by the message that God loves them."

"I'm going to keep sharing the message of Jesus, ...my greatest wish is, in the near future, to build a church to God's glory in the same neighborhood I used to terrorize as a gang member."

The people around him immediately noticed the change. No longer was Eiji Noda talking about hurting people, rather, he spoke to anyone who would listen about God's love and the life-changing power of Jesus Christ. The power of Noda's testimony touched another of his brothers and his father, as well. Both of them soon received Christ as their savior. His mother, of course, was so pleased at first that he was out of prison. But then she began to worry about the radical nature of this change in her son. She thought that somehow his past behavior and time in prison must have affected him mentally. "But now," Noda says, "she's my biggest fan."

Noda began putting his life back together by first finishing high school at night. He says that he has continued to see the mighty power of God at work, not only in his own life, but in the lives of numerous friends who, like him, have emerged from the swamp of drug addiction, prison and the hell-on-earth that sin makes of people's lives. Noda

Now in his last year before seminary graduation, Noda is confident about God's protection for him as he sets his sights on becoming a pastor and ministering to the type of violent and destructive people he himself used to be. Taking Isaiah 41:9-10 as his shield, he boldly pursues God's call in his life and has already seen powerful results. Noda often visits prisoners to tell them about God's love and, just like his brother did for him, give them a copy of the Bible. Some have already responded to the Word as he did – and even are praying for his ministry.

"Iron bars are no barrier to the Holy Spirit's work," he said. "I'm going to keep sharing the message of Jesus, I'm going to keep giving people Bibles."

"And," he added, "my greatest wish is, in the near future, to build a church to God's glory in the same neighborhood I used to terrorize as a gang member." ❖

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CLUTCHES OF THE SIREN

SAILING FREE FROM SEXUAL COMPULSION

-Andy Meeko

There are few subjects as rigidly taboo as sex, and within the church in Japan the case is prodigiously so. How strange that we remain silent when Satan is effectively ensnaring the souls of not just society in general, but even many seeking to bring salvation to this land. And consider the society we minister in. Last year, sex crimes among juvenile boys rocketed to twice as many as the previous year! What about girls? Although the government vowed three years ago to eradicate enjoukosai there are an estimated 50,000 girls nationwide selling themselves- that means one girl for every high school class in the country! And take a look at Japan's new global role- Japan now appears to be the largest instigator of child porn on the Internet. It is in this context that the following article appeared in the January issue of Hazah magazine (available at Christian bookstores in Japan, issues January-May 99). This article was the first of five articles for men on the subject of fighting the battle against temptation, I pray these may be of use for you in your ministry.

As a young man you sat in class daydreaming...about something you should not have. After all, young men think principally about one thing, right? And, although we may deny it, some studies have shown that a young man probably encounters those thoughts every seven seconds (some lie about those other six). And on that day in class, it just may have been, that the teacher was explaining some Greek mythology, and the devastating clutch of the Sirens. No it had nothing to do with fire engines, but rather female creatures which dwelt on a rocky island and wooed sailors to it's lethal coast. These creatures would sing such beautiful melodies that men lost all control and swiftly sailed straight to their deaths on the jagged rocks. Their carcasses then washed ashore and the Sirens would feast on the remains. It was Odysseus who took precaution by having his men stop their ears with beeswax so they would not hear the melodies. He also had them tie him to the ships mast so that he could not jump ship to swim ashore.

How many brothers I have seen sail their vessels into the rocks. How many I sense who's ships are set on course for the Island. It is from my experience of finding safe passage that I seek to

share solid hope to those struggling to be free. What I am talking about here is the power of sexual compulsion, a loss of control in regard to sexual behavior. This is a potent issue. I have found that in 15 years of discipling men, that it was a core issue in every man's personal growth and service. I have witnessed mentors, colleagues, pastors and missionaries, not to mention laymen, fall into the clutches of sexual compulsion to be riddled with guilt, shame, broken homes and ministries. Let's face it, Japan is a place where sexual temptation carries a particular powerful punch, for many reasons, not the least being, the taboo

What can a red-blooded man do?

nature of the subject. Yet when I have addressed this topic in various seminars with men in Japan, I have found an intense and grateful response.

Yes, these men, along with you and I, ride the morning train with the erotic page of the sports newspaper shoved in our face. We visit a bank or government office at lunch and while waiting our turn, find that the reading material in the waiting area to be weekly magazines with loads of skin spreads. We

go into a public phone booth, it's plastered there. We enter a public restroom and are blitzed there. At home our mail boxes are stuffed with it, no matter what action we take. We want to unwind with a video, but figure that the neighborhood video shop probably displays Disney's Bambi and Emmanuel X side by side. But then regular TV is always a risk too. Japan carries a long tradition with this kind of exploitation—we are bombarded. Not to mention, that isolation, stress, and loneliness all add kindling. What can a red-blooded man do?

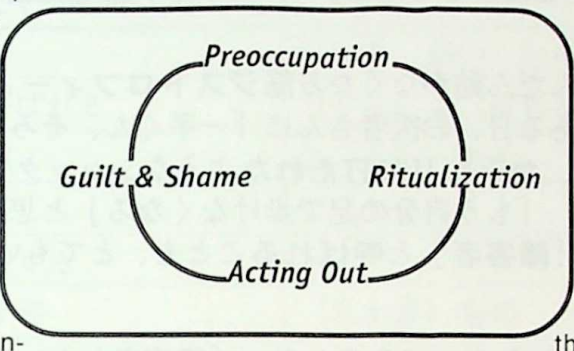
It is in response to the many requests I have received for written material on this subject that I am putting a series of articles together. Sexual compulsion is an incredibly powerful trap in which a man finds himself less and less able to say no, less and less able to choose. It is a downward spiral in which one hates oneself more and more, and secrecy and shame imprison the soul. It is a drug which will cause a man to increasingly rationalize, minimize, and gradually lose touch with reality itself. It is one of the most effective strategies of the pit to keep a man from his God and his call, and thus the home and the church pay a very high price. When a man participates in it, he may think the effect small, and how utterly deceived he is.

For those of you who are in the trap of pornography, let me make one clear statement; There is little as blatantly demonic as pornography. By possessing it you have brought demonic forces into your life and home. If you are a father you have just invited such demonic forces upon the lives of your children. You are flirting with creatures from the pit. Do not rationalize or be deceived, the impact of this is incredibly astounding.

So where are you on your voyage?

How close is the Island of Sirens? Can you hear their song? Are you out of control? If such is the case, dear brother, let me offer a word of encouragement: if you are facing and admitting your problem you are not only a courageous man, but God is working in you to rescue you right now. Admitting your problem is the first big leap. There are many who will read this article and rationalize away their lifestyle and likely pay a very big price down the road.

I would also like to state that there are many levels of sexual compulsivity, each with a deeper entrenchment, and a more in-



involved recovery. The scope of this article, however, will be from prevention to moderate recovery. There are those who require specialized help, but the material that is covered here is territory that all men will need to face, no matter where they are in their sexual lives.

I also want to share with you, dear brother, that this is not an attempt to be distantly philosophical, what I will share with you is very personal to me, I grew up in Japan, I was in the thick of battle before I even knew there was such a battle, and totally weaponless, as most of you were. I have seen the typical approach of most churches or pastors, and it is generally of little help. I will share with you through this article a safe passage, and a cache of weaponry which is entirely personal. And I believe that if you deal with these issues, and ingrain what is covered here into your being, you will one day face the opportunity of sin undaunted, and laugh praise to God. So my question dear brother is; are you ready to embark on another journey—a journey to the Island of Recovery?

There are two commonly misperceived issues in regard to sex compulsion. The first has to do with what it is, the second how soon one

can recover. The first misperception is that it is basically a problem of sexual nature. This then effects the way we approach it, or rather, avoid it. But sex compulsion is not principally about sex at all. It is much deeper than that, and it is basically about things not even related to hormones. It is principally an issue of the emotional, mental, and spiritual life. Often the inner needs manifested in sexual compulsivity are identical to the needs seeking expres-

sion in other addictive modes, such as alcoholism or eating disorders. Yes, the church is full of people struggling with sin issues. And for those who are

not aware of a struggle in their lives I would add a word of caution; the sin of pride is as vile as any (Luke 18:9-14).

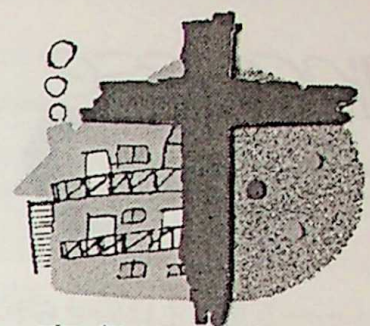
Now the second misperception; How long will recovery take? Here we must learn to be patient. The typical recovery period is considered to take 3-5 years! No, this is not just the; have the pastor pray for you and take a cold shower type of answer. Recovery and inner wholeness takes time, and the process is priceless. This is a long haul battle.

Thus this article is not a quickie, nor simplistic. I will take time covering various steps that are a must for you to deal with, and you will have time between each article to grapple with issues. One thing you will need to grasp at the beginning is the cycle of addiction courtesy of Dr. Patrick Carnes, the foremost expert on Sexual Addiction.

Preoccupation

Note in the figure, the **first stage is; Preoccupation.** Preoccupation is where thoughts are focused on the compulsive behavior. This leads to a mood altering high, yes an actual brain induced chemical (endorphin) high. A chemical which is similar to, yet considered more addictive, than cocaine.

(continued on p. 16)



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The Japanese Page

With Miriam busy on home assignment we present you with a challenging text she has provided for you to consider...with a little help on the next page. We trust you will enjoy expanding your grasp of this fascinating language.

チャレンジャー

-Miriam Davis

…一万軍の主は仰せられる。—わたしはあなたがたのために、天の窓を開き、あふれるばかりの祝福をあなたがたに注ぐかどうかをためしてみよ。(マラキ3:10 新改訳)

小学3年生の岩崎一平くんは、体がだんだん動かなくなる筋ジストロフィーという重い病気にかかってしまいました。そしてある日、お医者さんに「一平くん、そろそろ車いすを使おうか」と言われ、一平くんは、かみなりに打たれたようなショックを受けました。神さまのことは信じていましたが、「もう自分の足で歩けなくなる」と思うと悲しくてしかたありませんでした。また、「障害者」と呼ばれることも、とてもいやでした。

ある日一平くんは、図書館で厚い辞書をめくってみました。「障害者」ということばのほんとうの意味を知りたかったのです。そこには「じゃま者」と書いてありました。「ほくは『障害者』だから、ほくは『じゃま者』なんだ！」一平くんは、目がクラクラして車いすから転げ落ちそうになりました。その日から、一平くんはしぼんだ風船のように力なくポンヤリと過ごすようになりました。

ある日のことです。ときどき来てくださる女の宣教師の先生に、「先生、障害者のことを、英語では何と言うの？」と質問しました。先生は、慎重にことばを選びながら、「英語では最近、素晴らしいことばが使われるようになったのですよ。『フィジカルチャレンジャー』です。一平くん、あなたは障害者じゃなくて『チャレンジャー』、つまり挑戦者なのですよ」と喜びにあふれてお話ししてくださいました。

一平くんは、涙を流しながら聞いていました。「ほくは、『チャレンジャー』なのだ。神さまは、ほくを『チャレンジャー』にしてくださったのだ」

先生は、聖書のみことばを開いてくださいました。「わたしがあなたがたのために、天の窓を開き、あふれるばかりの祝福をあなたがたに注ぐかどうかをため(挑戦)してみよ」(マラキ3:10)

一平くんは変わりました。自分を見つめたり、人のことばを気にせず、神さまに目を向けるようになりました。そうすると、神さまから力をいただくことができるようになりました。パソコンでは、大ベテランになりました。無線技師の資格を取り、たくさんの人たちと友だちになりました。車いすマラソン大会では、いつも優勝しています。

さて、私たちはだれでも、弱いところ、助けてほしいところを持っていますね。それは障害ではありません。神さまは私たちがチャレンジャー(挑戦者)になることを望んでおられるのですね。あなたも『チャレンジャー』です。

From 「幸いな人」 August 1998 (かぞくれいはい)

語彙リストーチャレンジャー

筋ジストロフィー	きん (ジストロフィー)	Muscular Dystrophy
車いす	くるま (いす)	a wheelchair
かみなり		lightning
～に打たれる	(～に) う (たれる)	to be struck (by～)
～くてしかたありません		to be unbearably (sad)
障害者	しょうがいしゃ	a disabled person
～と呼ばれる	(～と) よ (ばれる)	to be called
図書館	としょかん	a library
辞書	じしょ	a dictionary
～をめくる		to turn over (pages)
じゃま者	(じゃま)もの	a nuisance
目がクラクラする	め (がクラクラする)	to feel giddy
転げ落ちる	ころ (げ) お (ちる)	to fall down, out of
～しそうになる		to almost (do something)
しぼむ		to wither, fade, deflate
風船	ふうせん	a balloon
ボンヤリと		blankly, absent-mindedly
過ごす	すごす	to pass time, live
慎重 (に)	しんちょう (に)	careful (ly)
涙を流す	なみだ (を) なが (す)	to cry
～しながら		while ~ing
祝福	しゆくふく	a blessing
注ぐ	そそぐ	to pour
気にする	き (にする)	to worry about
～せず		a negative form of～しない
(に) 目を向ける	(に) め (を) む (ける)	to look at
大ベテラン	だい (ベテラン)	a veteran
無線技師	むせんぎし	a radio operator
資格	しかく	a qualification
優勝する	ゆうしょうする	to win
障害	しょうがい	disability

We have all heard more and more, over the past months, about the "Y2K" bug and its implications for us. Perspectives range from those who would minimize the situation to those who predict the collapse of society as we know it. I have received, from several quarters, articles or material related to this issue, and could easily have done an entire issue built around Y2K.

"Y2K" means "Year of the 2nd Millennium," and has come to refer to the inability of many computer systems, because of their information structure, to adjust to the date change from 1999 to 2000. Generally, it means that the computers suddenly won't know when "now" is, when their internal clocks hit one second after midnight on January 1, 2000. Depending on the type of system this "bug" can have several effects. Two of the most common will be to cause the system to reset itself to the year 1900 (meaning you haven't been born yet and, therefore, why should it send you your paycheck?), or for the system to switch itself to "default" and shut itself off in order to avoid any further problems.

This can cause problems with any system that uses a date or clock system, which includes just about every significant operating system in government, banks, utilities, and transporta-

Y2K And You

tion services. Left unaddressed it could lead to loss of many services: making your money inaccessible, leaving you without water or power, stranding you on a train, in an elevator, or catching you in a moving vehicle dependent on its computer to operate properly.

Fortunately, most services, agencies and businesses have been aware of the situation and are seeking to address the problem. Unfortunately, the task of rewriting computer programs is a time-consuming one, and nearly overwhelming in light of the sheer number of computers Western societies depend upon (one estimate puts the number of the big mainframes alone at over 100,000, each with hundreds of lines of code that need to be rewritten).


Part of the problem, too, is the interconnectedness of our global society. One country's systems may work fine, but if a trading partner's systems have some major glitches, there may be delays in the deliveries of food, fuel, or other supplies.

Wherever you may fall on the spectrum of the "Y2K Problem" one thing is

certain, there WILL be problems of one sort or another. They may be minor inconveniences, they may be considerably more troublesome.

It is most certainly unwise to ignore the potential problems, but nor does it seem necessary to hide ourselves away in the remote mountains to avoid the apocalypse.

As one contributor pointed out to me in his material, as Christians we have a Biblical mandate to care for one another and for the community around us. It will be a prime opportunity for individuals and churches, having prepared themselves adequately, to reach out with the love of Christ to the people around them. If we take the time to make proper preparation we can be in a position to offer aid to those who need help. Should the preparations prove to be unnecessary we have not lost anything, in fact, we will finally have that earthquake survival kit together that we all determined we would put together after the Kobe disaster.

On the next page you will find a short list of suggested steps to take that my own mission, TEAM, has prepared for its missionaries. Your mission may have already provided some guidance in this area. I offer this as one possible approach to preparedness. 

-Gerald May

Thoughts on Y2K - a Perspective by John Piper

"This might be a place to say a word about the Y2K scare. Do you want a prophetic word about Y2K? I have two prophetic words about Y2K.

First, the greatest need on January 1, 2000, will not be basements stocked with food and water and generators, but hearts stocked with the Word of God. You will be fruitful, you will flourish, you will be life-giving not by seeking the very things the world seeks (Matthew 6:32), but by delighting in the Word of God and meditating on it day and night. What the world will need and does need from the church is the Word of God that fits us to say, "Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?... In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us" (Romans 8:35-37).

The other prophetic word about Y2K is this: Nothing is going to happen on January 1, 2000, nothing, that is as bad as what is already happening to persecuted and starving Christians in Sudan. Or to the staggering number of orphans in Malawi and other AIDS-devastated countries of Africa. Or to survivors in Honduras and Nicaragua. Or to lonely dying old people in dozens of skilled care centers around the Twin Cities who have outlived their families. There is something that smells of hypocrisy in the talk about stockpiling supplies in our homes to "minister" to others in the coming Y2K crisis when there are more places to minister this very day that are worse crises than anything that is going to happen a year from now. Y2K will happen to someone every day in 1999 - many of them within your reach.

Delight yourself in the Word of God, meditate on it day and night, and then take the fruit of your life and go minister to the lost and the hungry and the thirsty that are already so many. Then you won't even notice when Y2K happens."

Y2K - Being Ready

The Evangelical Alliance Mission's Japan Field Council recently sent the following suggestions for Y2K preparedness to all TEAM Japan missionaries. They are offered here as one possible approach to the potential problems.

1. Do not panic. The Y2K problem is not a life-threatening thing. It will be at most a big inconvenience and cause great frustration. However, most of the world lives like that everyday. That is probably the type of life we will be experiencing if the bug does hit Japan.
2. Have enough cash on hand to cover about one month of expenses. It may be good to accumulate this gradually over the fall months in case there is a run on the banks at the end of the year. It would be good to get your account books updated toward the end of the year, if possible.
3. Have at least two 18 litre jugs of drinking water on hand. You may want to see if there is a well in your area (they are for emergencies) where you will be able to get non-potable water.
4. Make provision for some heat in the home that does not rely on electricity, with the appropriate fuel on hand.
5. Fill your car's gas tank toward the last day of the year. Make sure the bicycles at your home are in good working order.
6. Make sure you have some emergency lighting: candles, flashlights (batteries), etc.
7. Have an adequate supply of blankets, sleeping bags, etc.
8. Food: There are several types of foods that can be stored. For example: freeze dried, dehydrated, canned, MRE's (meal-ready-to-eat). Some basic foods to be put aside include:
 - *Beans, rice, oats/grains, pasta and corn
 - *Powdered milk, sugar, flour and salt
 - *Cooking oil and spices
 - *Soups (canned or packaged) and jelly
 - *Powdered cheese, peanut butter, honey, coffee and tea
 - *Juices, crackers and cookies
 - *Canned vegetables, canned fruit, canned meals (stew, etc.) (& Non-electric can opener!)
 - *Instant potatoes
9. You may want to prepare a thick cardboard box or plastic box to put outside with items from the refrigerator in case the electricity is out for a while. They should keep outside during the winter.
10. A medical kit would also be good to have on hand for minor injuries and sickness.

"In a final note, we recommend that each missionary unit not only think of themselves in making such preparations, but their neighbors. Include your church in being ready to minister to the community in the event of a serious breakdown of an important service of some kind. We not only want to survive, but we want to minister while surviving."



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Special Announcement

JESUS TO THE NATION

Special Christmas '99 Evangelism Project

A Letter from the National Director of Campus Crusade for Christ

As you know, it will soon be the year 2000. This coming Christmas is a great evangelistic opportunity for programs welcoming the year 2000.

At the most recent JEMA Plenary session a motion was passed for involvement in a plan for every believer to get a copy of the "JESUS" video and give it to a friend or family member this Christmas '99. With nearly 250,000 worshippers in church on Sundays, this means that we are asking God to provide for 250,000 non-Christians to hear the Gospel this year through the video. Actually, many more may see the video as it enters each home, so this one strategy alone may expose a million Japanese to the Gospel!

If each church can use this alongside their own evangelism programs this Christmas, it would surely add to the impact we are all seeking to make for Christ. Campus Crusade for Christ desires to make the most of this opportunity, so we are announcing a special price for these videos for those participating in this Christmas '99 Jesus to the Nation Campaign. Each video will be provided at cost, and because this will be one very large order, we expect to provide the videos for 500 yen a copy. If we all do this together, and we actually order 250,000 copies, the price may be even lower. This is a great opportunity! Any believer should be able to afford 500 yen to take a very simple evangelistic step by buying one video to give away. Through this we will be able to introduce everyone we know to the message of "JESUS," which over 1.2 billion viewers have seen worldwide.

My request to you is this: Let us join together: church associations, mission groups, and independents. Working together to respond to this challenge for Japan! We could make a tremendous nation-wide impact as we welcome the year 2000 A.D.

For further information, please contact us at Japan Campus Crusade for Christ or use the order form (included in this issue) to indicate your participation through your denomination or group. Thank-you very much for considering being part of Jesus to the Nation!

Kazuyoshi Kurihara - Japan Campus Crusade for Christ, National Director

About the Project

1) People generally are highly aware of the change from 1999 to 2000 as being the turn of the century. The time leading up to that change, Christmas 1999, provides a great opportunity to draw people's attention to the reason for the date change: the Gospel of Christ.

2) Activities related to the celebration of the 2000th year since Christ's birth add an active image to the work of the church. The "Jesus" video is one of

the most well-used evangelistic tools worldwide, with over 1.2 billion views to date.

3) Non-Christians are already open to the idea of Christmas presents being given during this season of the year anyway, so the giving of a gift seems very natural.

4) Since the idea is basically a give-a-gift campaign, it is a very simple strategy that any Christian can use effectively.

5) Since it is not difficult for any believer to buy his or her copy to give

for only ¥500, there are no significant costs to the denomination or mission.

6) Since the video will be identified as a "special Year 2000 commemorative" item, it can still be used during Christmas of the year 2000 as well.

7) The video can be used in conjunction with the churches' regular Christmas programs, such as giving one to every visitor at Christmas programs, giving as a gift to shopkeepers near the church, etc., etc.

Let's take full advantage of Christmas 1999 for the Gospel! Each denomination, mission association, or group of individuals will handle the orders for their group. Campus Crusade for Christ will pay for delivering the videos to the association or group who will then be responsible to distribute the orders to their respective members.

All combined orders should be sent to the JCCC office by September 15, 1999.

The mass order will then be produced and shipped to the association or group by mid-November, so that the videos can actually arrive in churches by December 1, 1999.

Let's work together to bring a great Christmas blessing to Japan this year!

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*Dr. Craigen's missionary service has included being:

- a Bible teacher in the Black Forest Academy in Germany,
- a Coordinator of Biblical Studies with Grace Seminary Extension in France,
- a policeman in Rhodesia,
- an accountant in South Africa and
- a pastor in Alabama.

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- Saturday 10:00am* & 7:00pm
- Sunday 10:30am* & 7:00pm

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1999 Deeper Life Convention Contact Person: Ron Stoller 052-736-0341 (Nagoya)

I'VE BEEN THINKING...

-Warren Okerman

I'VE BEEN THINKING about networks. Like many people, the computer has become more and more a part of my daily routine. E-mail and the Internet are no longer strange ideas, but an everyday part of my thinking. I still write out a letter or message now and then with pen and paper. But, the computer networking concept has changed my thinking and my life.

Regular mail service is still useful in some areas. However, the postal service is also a network. So are grocery stores, airline companies and transportation systems. In fact, there are few business realms that have not become networks in their own right.

What am I saying? Today's generation lives life moving through networks.

Friendships also work great in networks. For example, I have five friends--give or take two or three. I know my five friends very well and we like each other. Each of my friends have four other friends (we're all very

friendly people). I don't know all the friends of my friends, but I've met many of them and they are nice people. In fact, I trust them because they are my friend's friends. Friendship and trust are key elements here.

During the earthquake here in Kobe, it took only thirty six hours before all of my friends and all of my friends' friends, and even most of my friends', friends', friends, were accounted for and were being taken care of. The city of Kobe was still thinking about what plan of action they should take. Do you get my point? Networks are amazingly efficient and helpful in this day and age.

ness, family, future marriage partners: whatever people needed. Does it work that way today? Not usually. Life has changed. Society has changed. We don't want to be stuck in dead-end activities. We want to be in networks, where everyone we meet leads us to other people, who lead us to other people till we find what we are looking for.

The large super-churches are sometimes a network community in themselves, that's why people go. But we are not going to start a super-church in Japan in the near future, except by divine intervention. But, we could create networks of small churches and Christian relationships, right now, starting today.

...about Networks

Leadership in fast-growing corporations and organizations, from what I read, is also changing to networking. No longer is it wise to have one person at the top laying out all the game plans. A single person's vision is too small. Their ability to gather important information is too limited. Besides, they can only be in one place at one time. That's a major limiting factor when business is happening all around the world all the time.

Now, look at the local church. I can only speak for what I've seen in this part of Japan, but what do we usually see? An active, vibrant part of the moving, changing community? I wish! When missionaries and pastors target an area to start a new church do they have a modern-day network strategy? Another link into an ever expanding Christian body that continues to grow to fill the whole world? No, not really. They are hoping to find a handful of people that are willing to come regularly to a church meeting centered around one person's ability to teach, sing, dance...and that one person is not usually Jesus.

Is that a network? No. Is this method of church growth working anywhere in the world today? Not that I know of. A hundred years ago the church was the community's hub, the center, the meeting place. Out of it flowed life-- spiritual life. Life for busi-

To use the Internet everyone has to get a computer, just as every Christian has to get salvation. This is just the starting point. With that computer you have to connect with a server. A computer and a phone line will not get you on the Internet. Neither is a Christian with his salvation promise alone going to get on the road to real spiritual growth.

We are very choosy about our servers. Reasonable prices, convenience, dependability and stability are what we look for. Their goal must be to connect us to the world efficiently. The same is true for the church. I'm not interested in only talking to the small group of people signed up with my local Internet server. Neither am I interested in only building relationships with the few people who come to the church nearby. We all want a church that is an open door to Christian activity anywhere we need to be connected.

No one church can know everything that is going on in the world. They don't have to. You only need five good friends, who have five good friends, who are willing to introduce us to their friends. People get to where they need to be eventually. The only thing is, churches must see their role as more than gathering and keeping people. We call those places prisons. The man on the street is not easily fooled. We need to change the image and role of the

(continued on p. 16)

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e-mail: m.gogel@jemanet.gol.com

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Contact people

- Tokyo**, Dave Walker
phone/fax 03-3904-9070.
email: djwalker@twics.com
- Osaka**, Doug Woyke,
phone/fax 0721-28-5879,
email: woykeds@roy.hi-ho.ne.jp
- Chugoku/area**, Dan Reddington,
phone/fax 0792-74-5176.
email: VEN11210@nifty.ne.jp
- Hokkaido**, Dale Viljoen,
work phone 0134-54-7874
email: viljoendale@omf.net
- Nagano**, Jon Benedict,
telephone 026-255-6088,
email: benedict@wc4.so-net.ne.jp
- Chiba**, John Taylor,
work phone 0473-24-3221
email: fd@omf.or.jp
- Otsu area**, Shiga Ken
Cyril and Masako Wong Kam
email: macywong@mediawars.ne.jp
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CLUTCHES OF THE SIREN

(from p. 7)

The question we must ask yourself is; What triggers your preoccupation? Certain places, times, situations?

Ritualization

The second stage is; Ritualization. Many activities get power from ritual. Athletes often use ritual to heighten mental state and perform better. Rituals are the things we do right before actually indulging, for example; going someplace, buying or renting something,

Acting Out

The third stage is actually; Acting Out. Although this could mean many things, it typically would be masturbating to pornographic magazines or videos.

Guilt and Shame

The last resulting stage is an incredible sense of Guilt and Shame. The guilt and shame lead to more secrecy, more denial, and perhaps even temporary cessation of activity (even for many months). As the cycle is repeated, over and over, degradation can begin to set in. Then, the feeling of degradation leads one to more degraded behavior, and a bigger fix is required for maintaining the level of excitement. This addictive system is self-perpetuated and the subtle process of increasing degradation and secrecy begins. Can you see yourself anywhere in the cycle?

So where do we need to give attention? It just so happens that effort in the ritual stage is most likely too late. It must take place at, or before, the pre-occupation stage. Yes, many have probably been fighting a lot of battles at the wrong time. No wonder failure is so common. We are fighting at the wrong time (after we have preoccupied ourselves), in the wrong way (thinking

this is a battle of hormones), and with the wrong time frame in mind (there may be years of battles to winning this war). There is a lot to learn.

Back to the Greek mythological Sirens. Have you ever heard the end of the story? When Jason and the Argonauts made their journey past the Island of the Sirens they took Orpheus along. It just so happened that Orpheus played such beautiful music that the men took no notice of the Sirens. The jealous Sirens were so enraged that they flung themselves to their deaths in the sea. And that brother is our secret too. In our recovery, God's Spirit will do something so beautiful in us that we will come to the point of giving little notice to the Sirens. We will become part of the process that leads not defensively, but aggressively against our enemy, to his destruction. So I encourage you to never give up hope, and also to never forget, to sail free is a glorious thing.

Other articles in the series printed in Hazah are, "The Healing", "The New Identity", "The Weapon", and "The Brotherhood-The Vision of the Future."



For any questions or fellowship
feel free to contact:

Andy Meeko - AMeeko@aol.com

Tim Johnson - timjeannie@aol.com

Andy Meeko is director of FamilyLife Japan (a ministry of Campus Crusade for Christ), author, speaker on marriage and parenting to both English and Japanese communities nationwide. He first arrived in Japan in 1972 as an MK, and began his missionary service in 1987. He lives with his wife Junko and four children in Yamagata.

**What a wretched man I am!
Who will rescue me from this body of death?
Thanks be to God -- through Jesus Christ our Lord!**

Romans 7:24-25

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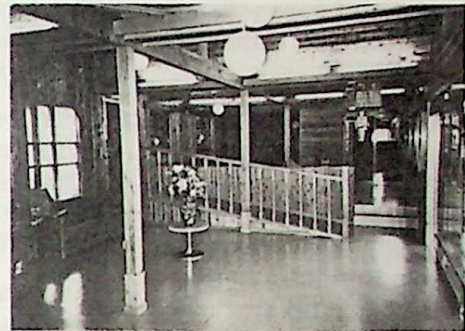
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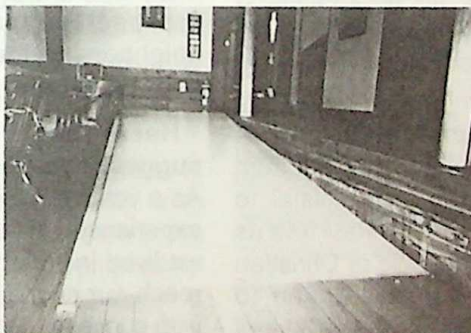
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Perspectives - "Chonai" Evangelism

-Donnel McLean

"And ye shall be witnesses unto Me both in Jerusalem and in all Judea... and unto the uttermost parts of the earth." Acts 1:8

The true center of evangelism is not the church but, rather, the home.

The church should be the training center where Christians are inspired, challenged and taught, not only to be strong believers, but also to be soul winners. (II Timothy 2:2). Please do not misunderstand me, for evangelism will occur in the church, but in actuality the church should be the center of evangelism from which the message of salvation is carried far and wide by its many members.

Every member should be trained prayerfully and carefully in personal

evangelism so that they learn how to lead needy souls to Christ. When Jesus called the early disciples He said, "Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men ... that is, soul winners." With proper inspiration and discipline every Christian should become an ardent soul winner.

Let's consider Andrew's example found in John 1. After meeting Jesus his first act was to find his brother, Peter, and bring him to our Lord! He began at home with his own brother.

I am reminded of a pastor in Lodi, California. After Sunday service he invited me to the parsonage for lunch and I shall never forget the impact of that visit. In the middle of the dining room was a very large table. Next, I noticed that in the kitchen, where his wife was preparing our meal, all the utensils were oversized. Mystified, I asked, "Why do you have such large bowls, cooking pans and so forth?" He replied, "Hospitality is the key to my success in soul winning. I have led far more souls to the Lord around this table and in my home than I have at the church altar." What a powerful testimony of the place our homes should have in our ministry as Christians. Our homes should not be where we shut everyone out, but from which we reach out and minister to others. In Romans 12:13 Paul tells us what a key characteristic of Christian living must be, namely, "given to hospitality". In other words, our homes should be--must be--our main center of evangelism.

Now, applying this fundamental principle to evangelism in Japan it is of utmost importance that we teach this to our Christians, namely, that their homes should be their center of reaching souls for Christ. Every believer in Japan lives in what they call a "chonai". These are the smallest organized communities of the country, averaging maybe 70-80 homes per chonai. They have business meetings,

elect officers and watch out for one another, and all announcements from the city hall are brought to the chonaicho (elected leader) and are distributed systematically to all homes.

Applying the truth of Acts 1:8, is it not true that **each believer's "chonai" is their "Jerusalem"**? Should not every Christian in Japan be challenged to make their chonai their primary "mission field" and moreover *taught the best procedures for winning their neighbors to Christ?* It is a sad fact that in most instances the Christians that come to our churches are usually the only believer in their neighborhood, that is, chonai! This should not be!

Beginning today let's inspire our Christians to focus their prayers and soul-winning efforts on their chonai neighbors. Share with them the exciting concept that they are *not living there by accident, but, rather, by Divine appointment.* It is their mission field and God has placed them there to love that community to Christ. Many in that neighborhood are winnable to Christ! Inspire them to excitement at the prospect of leading even some neighbors to the Lord. And it will happen!

Here are some positive suggestions for accomplishing this. As a veteran missionary I speak from experience, for in every neighborhood we lived in we endeavored always to reach our chonai people, and always with success. God gave us souls!

First of all, make a list of all the neighbors names. Include the children for they, too, are important and in many instances become the key to reaching their parents. Keep that list of names somewhere before you so that you will be able to pray for them all by name. God wants us to be *specific in our prayers.* There will be times when the Holy Spirit will lead you to do a "**prayer walk**", that is, quietly walk throughout the chonai neighborhood praying for Him to prepare hearts, save souls and

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lead you in making the right contact at the right time.

Next, in time, you will discover that one or two are showing an interest and are even opening up to you. Understand that this is the Holy Spirit's working. Pray especially for these, asking the Lord for natural opportunities just to be friends. Please remember that all of them have heartaches and problems that they feel they cannot share with anyone. They need, even yearn, for a confidante, someone they can open up to and get comfort and help. Seek to become that confidante! Never, never share with anyone else what they have shared with you. Just pray.

When that opportunity comes, be careful not to preach or badger them. Tragically, in our zeal we often drive even interested souls away. Let's not be guilty of that ... ever! Just listen and pray in your heart, waiting for the moment when they begin to ask questions, for when we do they will respond easily. That's when they are ready! Always remember that this will take time, even months, but do not be in a hurry for the right time will come. During these waiting times there may be opportunities for you to help them in some way which will demonstrate your love, and help to remove inner barriers and fears. Purpose to become their real friend.

Another recommended and natural way, especially for housewives, is to make something delicious, then invite a neighbor just for fellowship while enjoying the goodies. Of course, the men could buy something especially delicious to share while drinking coffee with a neighbor. We have called this "tummy evangelism" for in so doing it opens up natural ways to share Christ. No doubt, all in the neighborhood know you are a Christian and will have their defenses up. For that reason the fellowshiping must be low key. Understand, too, that some have been turned off in the past by being "preached at." Never preach! Never hurry! Always wait for the neighbor to make the first move, such as asking

some question that opens the door for easy and natural witnessing. Be patient. Be gentle.

Allow me to share an example. When we moved into a facility in Takaoka-shi our closest neighbor was a recluse, living alone. We hardly saw him because he would slip out so secretly. From time to time we would take something home-made, call out "Gomen kudasai," and immediately he would open the door an inch and peek out. Quietly we would hand him the goodies and return home. Later, we invited him to our Joy Hour on Saturday evenings. He began to slip in as inconspicuously as possible, vanishing before it was over. We just waited and then one day ...two years later... he came to the house and said,

The true center of evangelism is not the church but...the home

"Sensei, I would like to see you if it is okay." Immediately upon getting seated in my office he said, "Please help me to become a Christian." We were overjoyed. Our patience and love paid off. It always does and will!

One successful method we found to be very effective and fruitful was to begin a **little Bible study or low keyed service** that was geared only for our chonai folk. It was not to be thought of as a church service but a Bible-centered fellowship time with our neighbors. We were friends! We were neighbors! We wanted them to enjoy our home and its Christian atmosphere. There are scriptures on the walls. They would get used to seeing... and reading the Bibles we all were using. Usually, the gatherings included singing, sharing, a devotional and at the very end refreshments. Our goal was to get everyone to relax and just love being in our home. Oftentimes just the fragrance of Christ left its impact and for no other reason at all it would draw them back. How exciting!

Invariably, all this led to many opportunities to share Christ in totally

natural ways. Let me say, too, that one of the most rewarding results of all this was to discover, in case after case, that they came to Christ even though we had not specifically "led them to Christ." The Holy Spirit had done the work in His own way and time. It was easy to recognize when it had happened! We were always careful to never embarrass them by zealously forcing them to make a decision for Christ.

Something else we found effective was to have **Christian Club** just for the neighborhood children. Saturday afternoon proved to be the most effective, for it does not interfere with Sunday and this is important. Of course the primary goal is to share Christ and, as much as possible, get children to accept Christ as Savior.

But, gatherings must include games, snacks and a lot of fun if you want to hold their attention and keep them coming. There is lots of competition out there including, oftentimes, the opposition of parents and family. Always it must be a Christ-centered fun time. From time to time the club should feature such things as picnics, camping, hiking, all of which children just love.

In Hokuriku one of our stronger Christian ladies actually planted a church just through her children's Christian Club in her home. Today she is pastoring it! This powerfully illustrates how effective a chonai children's club can be.

In closing, allow me to **challenge every church in Japan to focus specifically on their chonai, too.** Often times, it seems that the members of most churches come to church from a distance...and none come from the immediate neighborhood--their chonai! Should not every church accept this as a challenge?

Let's focus on winning many souls from our chonai! List every neighbor's name and begin by praying for them by name. Don't be in a hurry. Remember, there are a lot of obstacles to overcome in many of their hearts. Maybe some have been stumbled or

(continued on page 24)

Wedding Evangelism...a perspective

-Doyle Book

We are seeing in Japan a phenomenon that defies explanation. Christian wedding chapels, many of them appearing as full church buildings, are appearing all over this nation by the scores.

"Chapel Weddings" have been growing in popularity in recent years, largely, no doubt, because of the influence of movies from Europe and America and because many public figures in Japan, particularly movie stars, have chosen this kind of ceremony. However, in recent years the number of couples seeking chapel weddings has been growing explosively. It is said that in the Tokyo area 60-70% of weddings are now in churches.

After 28 years of ministry in Japan, I know of no other method of evangelism that offers so much potential for a clear personal witness to thousands (the couples) and for drawing the interest of tens of thousands (the families and friends) toward the Christian church and, hopefully, its Savior.

One fascinating aspect of this trend is that many of the companies involved in the wedding business want to provide the "genuine article" — a truly Christian church ceremony conducted by a qualified (ordained) minister. Many of these businesses are seeking the help of missionaries because of the special appeal created by having a foreigner conduct the ceremony.

Yes, the interest of these businesses is monetary — the services they sell along with one chapel ceremony (banquet, honeymoon trip, etc.) might well bring into their coffers \$30,000 or more. Furthermore, it must be admitted that the couples who seek a chapel wedding are not particularly interested in Christian faith.

How, then, do we evaluate this phenomenon in the context of worldwide missions? Thelma and I along with John and Lucille Graybill and many others, are convinced it is a door of unprecedented opportunity which must be entered!

The Church in Japan long ago lost its attractiveness toward its society. Frequently it has been introspective, joyless and ritualistic. There is little effort within the church to devise appropriate ways to speak to its society. Into that void, God Himself is moving to make the Church attractive again.

God is building churches with the world's money! Is it possible that He is preparing these buildings for a coming revival when they will be needed for the sudden influx of people into His Kingdom? The thought is almost too much for me to contain emotionally!

I require an orientation time with the couple some days prior to their wedding. At the beginning of that time I ask them, both as a matter of personal interest and as an icebreaker, why they chose a "chapel wedding," that is, a Christian wedding ceremony. The most frequent answers are, the desire to wear the white wedding dress, the appeal of that solemn, stately walk down the aisle, the fact that the words of the ceremony can be understood, and the fact that friends also can attend. None of these things is available in a traditional Japanese (Shinto) ceremony.

In a word, the Christian ceremony is beautiful! It is appealing!

The bride-to-be often says that she has wanted a church wedding ever since she was a little girl. One young lady told me, "I have never linked arms with my father. I wanted to walk down the aisle on his arm." Beautiful! I dare say the heart of any Japanese girl leaps at the sight of the bride in shimmering white walking toward the groom who awaits her at the far end of the aisle.

By the way, just before the wedding of that young lady began, I told her father what she had said. I thought he was going to cry on the spot! It is very rare for a Japanese man to show emotion of this kind! Evidently her words really got to him. Perhaps he realized he had not shown the affection to his children that they deserved. When this man walked down the aisle

with his daughter, I could see that he was still struggling to contain his emotions.

Where does evangelism occur in all this glitter? First, the orientation session mentioned above provides the setting to carefully explain to the couple the nature of the living God who created marriage and gives meaning to the church ceremony.

Second, the ceremony includes an opportunity to speak a message to people who, in most cases, have never been to church before. Usually at least 40 people are present to hear words about the living God and His plan for our lives. Sometimes there are 80, 100, or even 120 non-Christians in one service! And I have conducted three, four, and even six weddings in one day many times! Thus it's possible that from 150 to 500 non-Christians might hear words of the Gospel on days when there are weddings!

But there is another dimension in chapel weddings that I feel is a divine call from God. It is to try to make the ceremony so moving, so full of meaning, so heartfelt, so lovely in content, that the people who enter a church for the first time will feel genuine delight in their experience. I pray that they will say "Wow, church is beautiful!" And be open to attending a Christian meeting again when the opportunity is presented them.

Indeed, perhaps this part of the chapel wedding ministry is even more important than "preaching" a message in the ceremony. If minds formerly disinterested in the Church can suddenly feel attracted to it through a lovely event, perhaps they will be ready to open further at another time when the Gospel is explained in more detail.

Here is where you come in. You can pray with us that God will capture the hearts of the people through the beauty that they hear and see in their first visit to church.

"Are souls being saved?" someone might ask. Reports of conversions through this ministry are extremely few. But Thelma declares correctly that wedding evangelism is "pre-evangelism" — that is, it is making the

first contact with people who have never heard before and have felt no interest formerly in going to church. How much we need your prayers that this beginning will grow into fruit later!

Here the matter of follow-up needs addressing. Perhaps this can be done in a later article, along with other details of this adventure the Lord has called us into.

Japanese people do not readily express their feelings, especially to a stranger. Thus I am encouraged, and I feel that God is at work, when people approach me spontaneously to express appreciation for the ceremony. A man apparently in his seventies came to me after a service and volunteered, "This is my first time ever in a church. I was deeply moved by the Christian wedding ceremony."

Often I receive letters from couples

thanking me for a memorable ceremony and saying that all of their friends felt deeply moved, some of them to tears, and those friends want to have a church wedding too!

Thelma says, "Tell them that what they are feeling is the presence of Jesus!" Indeed, that is what we hope they will realize! Our brief contact with the wedding guests is most likely the very first crack ever in the door of their minds concerning the God who is living and wants to walk with us.

Will you join us, and John and Lucille Graybill, and others sincerely trying to make use of this open door for the sake of God's kingdom, praying that the Holy Spirit will capture the minds — and through the minds, *the souls* — of the people in Japan who attend chapel weddings?



Third World Mission Congress to be Held

A major missions event, the New World Mission Congress, will be taking place in Kyoto from October 25 to 31. The Congress, is sponsored by a growing association of non-western mission agency leaders. The association, previously called the Third World Mission Association, will formally adopt its new name, New World Mission Association, during the sessions.

The NWMA represents 1,500 mission agencies, and 300,000 missionaries of 1,000 different languages from Asia, Africa and Latin America dedicated to the evangelization of "Muslim, Buddhists, religions from India and the New Age Movement" The meeting will be held at the INTERNATIONAL Conference Hall in Kyoto.

Speakers from around the world will address the delegates, including, Dr. Tomas Wang, President of AD 2000 & Beyond; Dr. David J. Cho, President of the East-West Center for Missions and the founding Chairman of the TWMA; Dr. David Hesselgrave, of Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, and many other leaders from world mission and church organizations.

A wide range of topics will also be addressed, including: The Meaning of

the New World; New Leadership for New World Mission in the Third Millennium; New Mission Structures, forms and practice in the Third Millennium; Essential Elements of Cross-cultural Church Planting; The challenge of the New Age Movement; The Role of Western Missions.

There will be daily sessions involving 2000 mission agency executives from the Third World meeting on a regional basis. They also expect 8,000 leaders from other ministries to participate in various evening and weekend sessions. Although this is a meeting of mission leaders from the Third World, space is being made to allow the participation of a limited number of western mission leaders.

The event is sponsored by the Nippon Revival Association and organized by the Third World Mission Association which is also celebrating its 10th anniversary.

Participation is by invitation only, but for those who are interested please contact -

Obed Alvarez, General Secretary of the Third World Mission Association at ocalvarez@bigplanet.com

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POTPOURRI & PROMISES

by Janice A. Kropp



The JOY of the LORD is my strength!



This little chorus I learned many, many years ago, and still find myself humming, singing and saying the words. Whether in the shower bubbling up, (wonder what the neighbors think as they bubble three feet away), or walking down the street, or rushing to church for a meeting, honestly, the tune vibrates in my heart. What's going on? Has my present age given new inspiration? Have I lived so long that life has become... "this is a recording— you've been through this before"? Or, am I progressing in spiritual life and faith?

Bubbling joy! Aren't there times we just don't feel joy, no less a bubbling? Working on a difficult, slow and unresponsive mission field, can joy fade without our realizing it? Is it possible for JOY to escape us in the seriousness of our task? Does joy "fit" driven, workaholic Japanese and foreign residents? If you're experiencing "runaway JOY", let's go fetch it!

CHECK for JOY — Circle your usual practice.

1. The heart thought as I explain the Word of God to non-believers is **a)** Here it goes again. Will he/she ever understand? **b)** I'll make it short and sweet. **c)** Holy Spirit continue to move on this heart. **d)** Lord, I know that as YOU worked with me, YOU will take this truth and make it REAL. Do I explain God's Word with JOY in its repeating?

2. When looking at faces in my congregation as they sing praise, JOY seems to be lacking. I will **a)** just let it be. **b)** give a pep talk. **c)** ask the Lord to let my face and expression be a joyful example. **d)** pray about the matter, then give a pep talk. Do I sing praises to my God showing JOY?

3. Living with another person, whether a spouse or roommate, I look at things which annoy me thinking **a)** That's the way it goes. I'll just ENDURE. **b)** I'm pretty sure I need to say something. **c)** I had better make this a matter for prayer. **d)** I will be thankful for the companionship and I will work on making needed changes within myself. Do I believe JOY makes a difference?

4. In family matters, I exercise and strengthen my **a)** rejoicing. **b)** praying. **c)** correcting. **d)** manipulating. Is JOY

really possible in the "nitty gritty" of life?

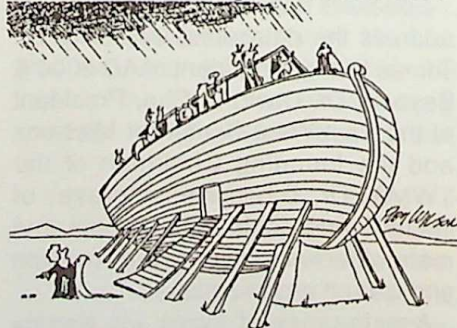
5. When facing problems like mountains, I tend to **a)** worry like mad. **b)** read everything I can get my hands on to find help. **c)** get on the phone and tell my woes. **d)** start and keep singing. Is it possible for a Christian, a minister, a missionary to lose JOY?

In his book, SPIRIT LIFE, Stuart Briscoe, in the chapter on JOY, asks five questions. These are worth our pondering and I quote:

1. "What kind of joy is described by (the Hebrew word) simchah? (quiet shining of the eyes), masos? (boisterous leaping and jumping), rinnah? (noisy exclamation of deep-felt thrill), gil? (emotional delight). Why does it take so many words to describe this part of the fruit? 2. How are the Greek words for "grace" and "joy" related to each other? Why will an appreciation of the first cause an increase in the second? 3. Why could first-century Christians have joy, despite persecution? How did this affect the spreading of the gospel? 4. Give some examples of how God can use creation to stimulate joy in the believer. What is the part of the Spirit in this? Why is Scripture important in revealing the joy God has made available for the Christian? 5. How can suffering bring about joy? Why does God sometimes allow Christians to suffer?"

Margaret Jensen, in her book, LENA, writes about her friend and colleague. The following scene touched my heart:

"The infirmary door banged open and I heard a frantic, 'Where's Lena?' 'Lord have mercy, child, in the kitchen. Where else? Don't go bangin' no doors in my house, boy.' Lena's laughing eyes and bear hug countered her law-and-order command. 'Lena, I'm starved. I overslept and can't make the dining room. Got any toast and coffee?' Jim eased his six-foot frame into a chair, and between bites and gulps confessed his fears about girls, exams—and life. 'While you're swallowing your food whole I'll sing you a song and then come back when me and you can talk. Every day, son, I stands by this window and looks to that tree, and I says, 'Big tree, you been there in long years gone. You been in the winter and the storm, the spring and the summer. You changes colors, but you still stand. You done watched my children coming and going (all the students were her children). You're there when the children go home for the summer and you still standing when they comes back.' You know something, Jim? Me and that tree is the same. We both gets life from God.



DO WE TAKE TERMITES?

The Bible says that this black Lena is like a tree planted by the rivers of water and the leaf shall not wither and what Lena does shall prosper. My roots are in Jesus—that's my roots—and I drink of the river of life, and when that tree is gone, long gone, this Lena still stands forever with the Lord. All that learning your getting, boy, who is telling you that? Lost in her own thoughts, Lena sang softly, 'Without Him I would be nothing'..." (pgs 11, 12).

That's it! Without HIM we would be nothing. Now, JOY springs from that understanding. Stuart Brisco is right when he writes "...every thought of grace should produce an exclamation of joy," Spirit Life, (pg 38).

Do we think of God as being an "august, austere, awesome judge standing aloof and apart from us in the agony of our human anguish?" questions Philip Keller in his book, The Gardner Looks at the Fruits of the Spirit. NO, he writes and clarifies, "He is the one who yearns over us, longs for us, searches for us, and when we are found enfolds us to Himself with inexpressible JOY. He is the Good Gardener Who toils over us and tends us with constant care. Patiently He waits for the full fruitage. He finds JOY in the planting He has done, and He waits eagerly for a crop. With great JOY He gathers the harvest. There is deep delight in all He does. There is enthusiasm in everything He undertakes. There is sweet satisfaction in all His enterprises. His life, vitality, enthusiasm, and energy are transmitted directly to me by His Spirit who resides within. It is His knowledge of me, His careful husbanding of the ground of my being, His concern for my welfare, His cultivation of my character, His constant presence in the garden of my little life—that guarantees my JOY," (pg 95).

THIS ISSUE'S PROMISE

"ask and you will receive, and your JOY will be complete"

John 16:24b



Romans 14:17, 18 declare: "For the Kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and JOY in the Holy Spirit, because anyone who serves Christ in this way is pleasing to God and approved by men."

J-O-Y is all wrapped up in Jesus! The angels heralded the King's birth with, "This is a tiding of great JOY." This JOY is to be watched; this JOY is to well up within our breasts. Jesus is our JOY. JOY is offered freely. Joy increases

as we meditate on all Jesus has done for us, through the marvelous work of His precious Holy Spirit. It is right to check on our JOY. It is right to take every opportunity to show it. There is not one of us who lives outside GOD's GRACE! Grace begins all and it will end all! My heart cannot help but burst forth in "simchah, masos, rinnah and gil" JOY!

The J in JOY stands for Jesus! Over the past thirty years I have learned one thing for sure! Jesus is everything to me and it is He I seek to please, to serve and worship. O in JOY is for overcoming! Life is facing and overcoming. What joy to be an overcomer!

Thank God For Little Things

by Helen Steiner Rice

Thank You, God, for little things
That often come our way,
The things we take for granted
But don't mention when we pray...
The unexpected courtesies,
The thoughtful, kindly deed;
Oh make us more aware, dear God
Of little daily graces,
That come to us with "Sweet Surprise"
From never-dreamed-of places.

What joy to be in "process", too. And, Y in JOY is for yielding — giving ALL to Him. Charles Spurgeon writes that, "the very essence of anxious care is imagining that we are wiser than God..." (Morning & Evening, May 26.) Jesus calls, Jesus completes, Jesus cares! No wonder I'm singing!

Jill Briscoe, in her book of poems,

SUGGESTED SPIRITUAL EXERCISE for fetching JOY:
STEP #1 Write down all the things God has done for you! STEP #2 Meditate on what you have written. Then the bubbling will begin! I promise!

HEART-BEAT, pens the short piece, "Overtaken with JOY" "Years ago a young man we met on the streets of Europe found Christ. A few months later he stood up to testify to his new-found faith. 'I've been running away from God for years,' he said, 'but I discovered He has longer legs than I have!' This was the incident that I 'married' to this meditation. Sorrow would bury us because sorrow is the undertaker. JOY is Jesus—Jesus is the Overtaker who overtakes the undertaker and dresses our spirit in a garment of praise!

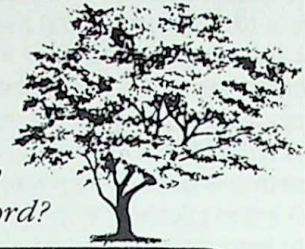
Joy is Jesus—God in Galilean cloth touching our lives —offering us life! And making our hearts smile. Don't try to run away from the Lord — Remember He has longer legs than you have!

The JOY of the Lord is My strength!



WOMEN IN MINISTRY ~ WESTERN JAPAN

*So, you are the pastors wife, or maybe a church planter, or a teacher.
Do you need to be refreshed and have YOUR spiritual tank filled?
Looking for a new idea in teaching English or the Bible?
Would you like a day away with other women in ministry
to fellowship pray, share, praise, AND Study God's Word?*



If you answered yes to any of these questions, we would like to invite you to a Ladies Retreat in KOBE on September 29th and 30th. at "Haha No Ie" ~ Bethel House.

Our Spiritual feeding will come from an introduction to and study of several chapters in "PRECEPTS" God Are You There, an inductive study of the Gospel of John by Kay Arthur. An English text will be included in the cost of your day away. (Other languages are available, please ask us if you would like to study in your very own "native tongue", teaching and sharing will be done in English).

¥10,000 will cover your evening meal, night's lodging and breakfast. Western style rooms are ¥500 more. If you would like to join us, but not overnight, please call to register for meals you might like to have.

*For information/registrati3n, please call Jeanette Owens 0849-45-5750 or 0869-55-0548
Space is limited, please call soon!*

Perspectives- "Chonai" Evangelism

(continued from page 18)

hurt by someone's poor testimony. Next, prayerfully invite them in for fellowship while enjoying some food that we especially like or have made. Help them relax and enjoy the fellowship. Listen. Enjoy them. Make them comfortable.

Try a sukiyaki dinner or some such thing for each family, starting with the Chonaicho and his family. Come up with a hospitality strategy that may take two or three years or more! Be careful not to preach at them! Just get to know them. Enjoy them. Become friends... good neighbors. Your first goal should be just to get them inside the church and feeling comfortable. For if they do, and get to really like you, then sooner or later they will muster up the courage and desire to come to church. Let it happen naturally. Too often in our zeal or impatience we drive people away. Let's not do that. **Let's love our chonai neighbors into the church...into the Kingdom of God.**



I'VE BEEN THINKING...

(from p. 14)

local church, in my opinion.

"The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into a large amount of flour until it worked all through the dough." Think about it . Every time you eat a piece of bread you are eating the result of a very effective network. Doesn't this sound like the Kingdom of God is designed to be a kind of network?

Because of the radically new way people live and move these days, I honestly believe we need to rethink the way we "do church" here in Japan. The message is the same. People's needs

are still the same. But, the way we can meet people's needs and bring them the message may need to change. I think networking is the way to go.

I'VE BEEN THINKING... is an idea letter created to share information and ideas and stimulate brain-storming on any and every topic related to building the kingdom of God in Japan. The opinions are my own and may well change after I hear yours. If you're interested let's talk. Warren

*New address: warren@sany.net.ne.jp
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MINISTERING IN A HUMPTY DUMPTY WORLD

-Haddon Robinson

A political leader summing up the brokenness of our time talked about "Humpty Dumpty people existing in a Humpty Dumpty world." That intriguing phrase takes us back to childhood.

*Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall;
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall.
All the king's horses
and all the king's men
Couldn't put Humpty Dumpty
together again.*

Humpty Dumpty, the poor egg, tumbled from a wall, smashed on the pavement, and was badly broken. When the king's horses and the king's men arrived, they stood by help- less. While they could di- agnose what had hap- pened in the fall, they could not put the splat- tered, shattered egg back into the shell again.

That rhyme stands as a parable of life. The king's horses can do nothing, neither can the king's men. Yet, it could make a difference if only some- one summoned the king. He could make the broken egg whole again. Jesus Christ, the King of kings, specializes in doing just that. When he visited our planet, He healed broken bodies and, more profoundly, He for- gave people's sins. Through His people He does that today.

God fashioned the church as Christ's body so that "the members might care for one another" ((cor. 12:25). Paul commended young Timothy to the church at Philippi as someone who would care for their interests as no one else (Phil 2:20), and the apostle re- garded that care as "seeing what belongs to Jesus Christ"--that is, involvement in the concerns of Jesus himself. The church must be a caring community because we represent a caring Savior.

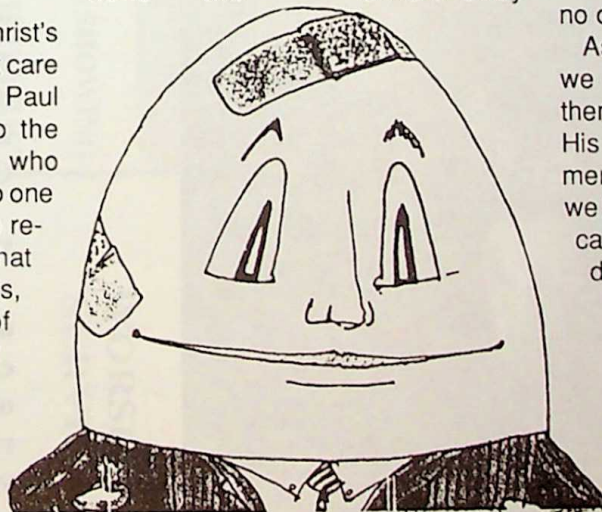
In the New Testament, caring takes many shapes--as basic as an offering for destitute

Christians in Jerusalem or taking care of aged parents; as necessary as be- ing patient and kind or visiting widows and orphans in distress; as obvious as paying a just wage to people who work for us: as simple as a cup of cool wa- ter. Through His church our caring Savior cares for Humpty Dumpty peo- ple hurting in our Humpty Dumpty world.

Yet, in our caring, the greatest need of our Humpty Dumpty population is spiritual. Margaret Sangster, the so- cial worker, told her colleagues about

*Humpty Dumpty men and women
don't care how much we know until
they know how much we care.*

seeing a small boy in an urban ghetto sitting on the stairs of a tenement. He appeared little more than a bit of twisted human flesh. The youngster had been struck by an automobile several months before, but his parents, fresh from Appalachia, neglected to get him proper medical attention. Although not part of her case load, she took the boy to an orthopaedist and learned that through an involved series of opera- tions the child's body



could be made normal again.

She cut through the bureaucratic red tape, raised the funds, and set the process of cure in motion.

Two years after the child entered the hospital he came to her office. To her astonishment, the lad walked in with- out crutches, and to demonstrate the completeness of his recovery, he turned a cartwheel for her. The two embraced and when the youngster left, Margaret Sangster reported that a warm glow mantled the entire office. She said to herself, "If I never accom- plish anything else in my life, at least

here is one young man to whom I can point where I have made a real differ- ence!"

At that point she paused in her presentation and asked,

"This was all several years ago now. Where do you think that boy is today?" Caught in the emotion of that moment, several made suggestions-- a school teacher? a physician? per- haps a social worker?

There was a longer pause, and with even deeper emotion Margaret Sangster said, "No, his is in the peni- tentiary for one of the foulest crimes a human being can commit." Then she said, "I was instrumental in teaching him how to walk again, but there was no one to teach him where to walk."

As part of Christ's caring community we can help people walk and show them where to walk. We must be about His caring ministry. Humpty Dumpty men and women don't care how much we know until they know how much we care. Cynics who "couldn't care less" don't represent a crucified Lord who "couldn't care more." When we in- troduce hurting men and women to the King of Heaven, people with broken bodies, broken dreams, broken hearts and bro- ken homes can come to whole- ness of life they can come to in no other way.



JEMA SEMINARS

AT SUMMER CONFERENCE '99

JULY 29 - AUGUST 1

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GAIN NEW INSIGHTS AND HELP FOR YOU AND YOUR MINISTRY

*MENTORING RELATIONSHIPS FOR SUCCESS

Presented By: Laurence Heibert & John Mehn

Sponsored By: JEMA Church Planting Institute

This seminar will discuss the Biblical dynamic of mentoring. Designed--and vital--for everyone who would like to see their personal and ministry effectiveness increased through the give and take of Christian mentoring.

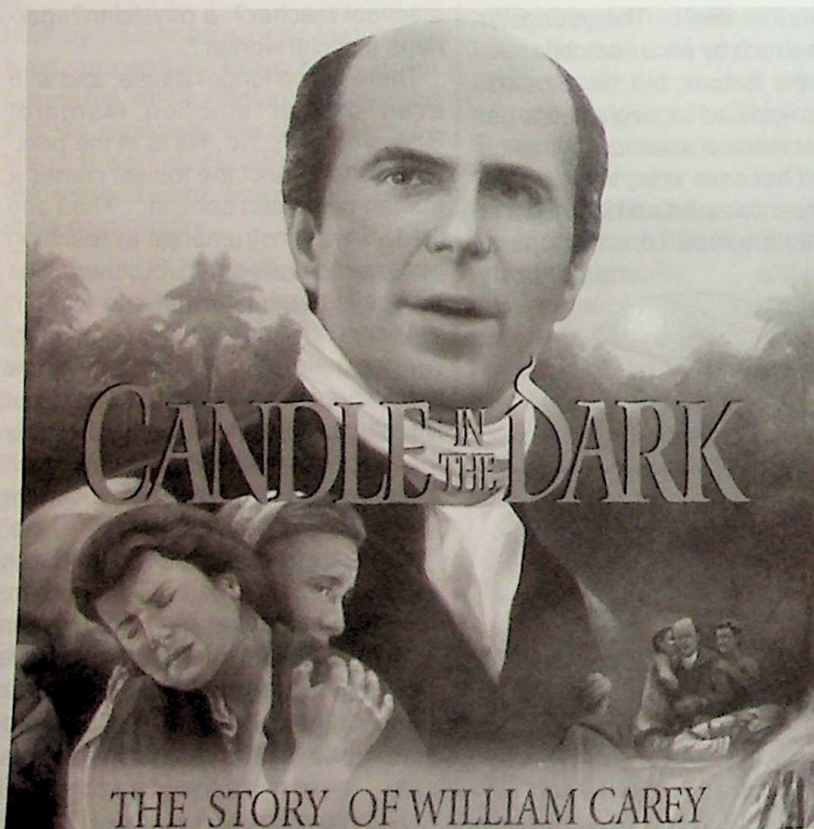
* REACHING RETURNEES

Presented By: David Kennedy

Sponsored By: Returnee Christian Network Japan

As Japanese young people study and live overseas in increasing numbers, those who come to know Christ in those distant lands also increase. RCNJ's ministry is to provide a link between these new Christians and churches in Japan. Learn how you can more effectively minister to these "Returnees" and tie into the growing network of associated churches reaching out to these young believers.

JEMA Conference - Premiere Presentation!



"CANDLE IN THE DARK"

"...a powerful new movie about missionary hero William Carey, the great pioneer Baptist missionary from England who sparked the modern protestant missionary movement..." is set to premiere at the JEMA Summer Conference '99.

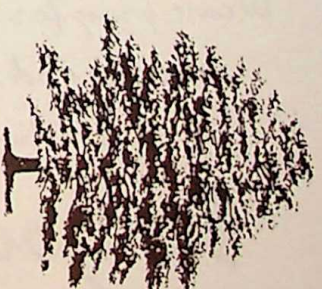
Don't miss this opportunity to preview this excellent production, and find out how you can make use of it in your own ministry. An excellent recruiting tool to show in your home churches!

SATURDAY, JULY 31, KARUIZAWA UNION CHURCH - 10:45 AM

**“HE WHO HAS EARS, LET HIM HEAR”
JEMA SUMMER CONFERENCE ‘99**

JULY 29 - AUGUST 1

KARUIZAWA UNION CHURCH

<p align="center">THURSDAY JULY 29</p>	<p align="center">FRIDAY JULY 30</p>		<p align="center">SATURDAY JULY 31</p>	<p align="center">SUNDAY AUGUST 1</p> 
<p>Special Children's Program... ...for grades 1 through 5 (age 6-11) & Child Care... ...for children ages 1-5 also available</p> <p>...offered Fri. & Sat. morning from 9:00 to 12:00 (not Sunday) (¥200/day/child)</p>	<p align="center">8:30 - 8:55 AM</p> <p align="center">SEASON OF PRAYER (UNION CHURCH PRAYER ROOM)</p> <p align="center">9:00-10:20 AM</p> <p align="center">“HAVE YOU HEARD THE ONE ABOUT?” BIBLE EXPOSITION BY DR. HADDON ROBINSON</p> <p align="center">10:30 - 10:50 AM</p> <p align="center">COFFEE BREAK & FELLOWSHIP</p> <p align="center">11:00 - 12:00 AM</p> <p align="center">SEMINARS * Mentoring Relationships for Success * Reaching Returnees</p> <p align="center">10:45 - 12:25</p> <p align="center">SPECIAL PREMIERE SHOWING OF “CANDLE IN THE DARK”</p>		<p align="center">10:30 - 12:00</p> <p align="center">WORSHIP SERVICE</p>	
<p align="center">CONFERENCE BEGINS THURSDAY EVENING</p>	<p align="center">2:00 PM</p> <p align="center">LADIES TEA</p> <p align="center">1:00 PM</p> <p align="center">INTERNATIONAL PICNIC AT MEGUMI CHALET</p>	<p align="center">FREE TIME</p>		
<p align="center">7:00 - 8:30 PM</p>				<p align="center">“HAVE YOU HEARD THE ONE ABOUT...?” CHALLENGES FROM GOD'S WORD</p> <p align="center">WITH HADDON ROBINSON</p>

Kariuzawa Union Church

July 18 - August 22:

Sunday

9:30 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship Service
7:00 PM Evening Service

JEMA

Conference:
July 29 - August 1
with Haddon Robinson

Wednesday

7:00 PM Prayer Meeting

Youth Conference:

August 2 - 4

KUC Annual Meeting:

August 4, 7:00 PM

Deeper Life Convention

August 5 - 8



Dr. and Mrs. Trevor Craigen

Dr. Craigen holds dual citizenship in South Africa and Britain. He has lived and worked in six different countries, and is presently an associate professor of theology at the Master's Seminary in Sun Valley, California.

Dr. Craigen will be the summer pastor for the Kariuzawa Union Church this year, and he will also be speaking at the Deeper Life Convention.

Please pray for the services and come prepared to be renewed and refreshed. We are expecting a very exciting and wonderful summer.

See you in Kariuzawa

FAMILY VIDEOS FROM LIFE ENTERTAINMENT

MOSES

(Mose)



Academy Award winning Ben Kingsley is Moses in this awe-inspiring tale of an ordinary man called upon by God to become a great leader. Moses is awe-struck when God, in the form of a burning bush, calls him to guide the Israelites out of bondage. The reluctant leader and his flock begin the treacherous journey to the Promised Land. However Pharaoh intends to stop the exodus and with his brutal army traps the Israelites by the banks of the Red Sea. Yet the Israelites are God's chosen people, and the waters part, allowing their

safe passage.

Vol. 1-Moses' birth & early life, escape to Midian, burning bush 42 Min.

Vol. 2-Egyptian plagues, passover, exodus 47 Min.

Vol. 3-Crossing the Red Sea, manna in the wilderness, advice of Jethro, Mt.Sinai meeting with God, the Golden Calf 47 Min.

Vol. 4-The Ten Commandments, Ark of the Covenant, spying out Canaan, memorial stones, appointment of Joshua, death of Moses

Vol.#1-4 Japanese Language Version (49496)

Vol.#1-4 English with Japanese subtitle Version (49497)

Either set ¥13,800



Christy is a story of "faith beyond measure and courage beyond belief." Based on the international bestseller by Catherine Marshall, Christy tells the story of a courageous and spirited young woman who leaves her sheltered city life to teach at a mission school in a remote Appalachian community in 1912. She soon adopts Cutter Gap as her new home. By breaking through walls of fear and generations of darkness, she fights for the welfare of the people and helps bring them into the 20th century by touching their hearts and changing their lives forever. Fully dubbed into Japanese.

(Kurisuti) (49501) ¥3,800

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1. Where is God When I'm S-Scared?

Two stories teaching how to handle daily fears. Jr. Asparagus learns how God the creator is bigger than anything. Larry sings the water buffalo song. Larry plays Daniel who is not afraid because God is with him in the lion's den. (49425) ¥3,800

2. God Wants Me To Forgive Them?

Two stories teaching about forgiveness. Comical takeoffs on the "Grapes of Wrath" and "Gilligan's Island." Jr. Asparagus learns to forgive a family of rude grapes for their teasing. Jr. Asparagus tells a flashy TV salesman that people don't need a "forgive-a-matic" to "get" forgiveness. Just ask God. Captain Bob forgives First Mate Larry for their shipwreck. Highlighted Bible verses are Matthew 18:22 & Colossians 3:13. (49426) ¥3,800

3. Are You My Neighbor?

Two stories full of songs and laughter, teaching about "loving your neighbor." Hilarious version of "Good Samaritan." Hairless Larry sings "Where is My Hairbrush?" Through a battle in outer space against a popcorn meteorite, Jr. Asparagus learns that differences are okay. (49427) ¥3,800

4. Rack, Shack & Benny

Paralleling the biblical story of Shadrach, Meshach & Abednego and the Fiery Furnace. Rack, Shack & Benny help children learn how to resist peer pressure and stand up for what they believe in. (49456) ¥3,800

5. Dave and the Giant Pickle

This hilarious retelling of the biblical story of David and Goliath teaches kids that "with God, all things are possible." It makes no difference whether you're eight feet tall or two feet tall. With God's help, even little guys can do big things. (49457) ¥3,800

6. The Toy that Saved Christmas

Filled with humor, catchy songs and lively computer animation, The Toy that Saved Christmas teaches children of all ages that "Christmas isn't about getting, it's about giving. And it's especially about a little baby named Jesus who was the greatest gift of all!" (49458) ¥3,800

Tapes 1-3 Set (49428) ¥10,800

Tapes 4-6 Set (49459) ¥10,800

Tapes 4&5 Set (49460) ¥7,300



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Warm heart communication by Aunt Stella

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DUTCH COUNTRY



In the later part of the 18th century, when the German settlers came to Pennsylvania, they brought with them not only their culture but also their old family recipes. One of the German families by the name of Dunkle, whose daughter Stella liked to bake, developed many cookie recipes which we are happy to introduce to you.

