



JAPAN HARVEST

Japan Evangelical Missionary Association

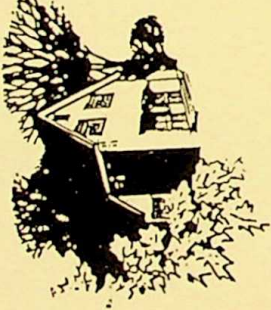
Summer 1993

Why are so many Japanese going the wrong way, and what can missionaries do to help them make a U-turn?



JEMA SUMMER CONFERENCE 1993

Karuizawa

Daily Program	Thursday, August 5	Friday, August 6	Saturday, August 7	Sunday, August 8
8:30-8:55 Prayer Time	Karuizawa Union Church	Prayer Time Dr. Kemmler Morden Music Team	Prayer Time Dr. Kemmler Morden Music Team	Prayer Time
9:00-10:30 Bible Hour	 <p>Let us pray for spiritual refreshment</p>	Fellowship Time Tea and Coffee	Fellowship Time Tea and Coffee	9:15 - 10:15 Sunday School (Age 4 and up)
10:30-11:50 Fellowship Time Tea and Coffee Youth Program		Fellowship Time Tea and Coffee	Fellowship Time Tea and Coffee	10:30-11:50 Worship Service with Dr. Kemmler
10:50-11:50 Seminar Hour	<p>JEMA Conference begins Thursday at 7:00 p.m.</p>	Elective Seminars	Elective Seminars	Recreation and Fellowship
Youth Program		JEMA International Picnic 12:30 At Megumi Chalet	Ladies' Tea 2:00-4:00	Recreation and Fellowship
7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Inspiration Hour	Dr. Kemmler Morden Music Team	Dr. Kemmler Morden Music Team	Dr. S. Franklin Morden Music Team	Dr. Kemmler Morden Music Team

A Youth Program will run concurrently from 9-12 on Friday and Saturday morning

For further information please call JEMA, 03-3295-1949

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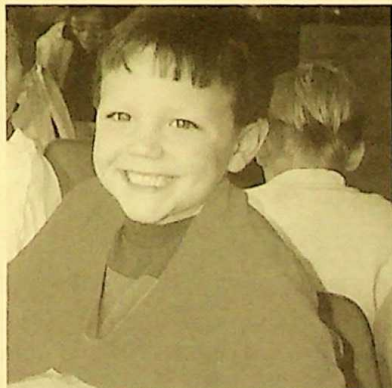
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JAPAN HARVEST

The Magazine for Today's Missionary
Volume 43, No. 41/ Summer 1993

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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 expresses the viewpoints of the contributor and not necessarily those of JEMA. The editor welcomes unsolicited articles.

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In This Harvest ...

Cults and New Religions

William Wood, Guest Editor

As most of us are painfully aware, the cults and new religions in Japan are growing at an alarming rate. It has been calculated that there are about 400,000 people attending services in Kingdom Halls across the country, compared to an attendance figure of about 250,000 for Sunday morning worship services in Protestant churches. In addition, the January 1, 1993 edition of the *Watchtower* magazine indicates that there are over 170,000 Jehovah's Witness evangelists in Japan who spent 85 million hours doing evangelism during 1992. These are very discouraging figures indeed. However, as Guest Editor, it is not my desire to present a gloomy picture of the spiritual outlook of evangelism in Japan.

I feel that there are two ways of looking at the present situation. We can throw up our hands in despair and say, "*Shigata ga nai*," or we can accept the cult and new religion problem as something that a sovereign and almighty God has allowed in His providence to shake up His Church. Certainly it can be said that God is challenging us in two areas. One is serious study of the Word of God. It is time for us to dig into the Bible and become Christians who can "contend for the faith" (Jude 4). Another area in which God is challenging us, of course, is in the area of evangelism. For too long evangelism has been the sole responsibility of the pastor. This has to change. In the midst of the cult problem God is saying to every believer in the church, "Wake up to your responsibility as witnesses for Jesus Christ."

We serve a God who is able to work out all things for our good and His glory. May we rise up in faith to accept the challenge that lies before us.



The William Wood family live in Niiza City, where he serves as assistant pastor of the Sunrise Christian Center in Yoshikawa Cho. William came to Japan in 1976. In 1988 he founded the Word of Truth Ministries which engages in various forms of outreach to cults. He travels extensively throughout Japan holding cult seminars and ministering in evangelistic meetings.



JEMA Windows

Barry Potter
JEMA President

Ms. Kobayashi died last week.

Actually, I'm on the run to a committee meeting. But before I go, I need to pass on some bad news. Mrs. Kobayashi was killed last week in a tragic accident.

Of course, people die all the time. Usually, we pay no attention—unless it is someone we know. But that's why I thought I should tell you about Mrs. Kobayashi. Because I think you know her.

Well, the Mrs. Kobayashi you know may not actually call herself by the same name. And she is probably not dead. Yet.

But all the same, I think you know her.

She lives in the small, well-kept house with a little garden out front (or perhaps behind). She is the mother of two children—probably a boy and a girl. While her husband works long hours, she raises her family and is involved in a number of social and community activities in your area.

When you moved into the neighborhood to start a church—or possibly just to look for opportunities to share the Lord with interested people—she was friendly. She smiled at you when you met her on the street. She might have knocked on your door to let you know that today was the day non-burnable garbage would be collected. Or to explain the notices on the neighborhood bulletin that was being passed from house to house. And when you opened your home for a meeting and got the word around, she showed up.

Our Mrs. Kobayashi came to the introductory meeting in our area, smiled at everyone, and was very friendly. She heard a very simple message which contained Biblical truth. But since this was the first introductory meeting, the

purpose was just to meet people and get to know them. The content of the message was very basic.

Of course, Mrs. Kobayashi could have visited us later to find out more about the Bible. But the Mrs. Kobayashis never do. They usually continue to smile, and always remain very friendly.

Your Mrs. Kobayashi may know that you are here to teach the Bible. Maybe she has even attended one of your meetings. Probably she has been friendly and helpful. But as far as spiritual interest is concerned, all you really know about her is that she smiles a lot.

I understand that you're planning to have her over for coffee and try to get to know her better. Or perhaps to drop in on her for a visit. Who knows—behind the smile there might even be a keen interest in spiritual things.

But, like us, you have probably been much too busy lately. After all, your mission does require you to attend a number of important meetings. And all those seminars help you to be better prepared for ministry. School events keep you on the run, too. After all, the kids need your support. And we all have to take our turn helping with school activities.

The list is endless. There are those items bought at last month's bazaar that need to be taken up to the mission cabin next week—it'll only take a few days. Getting prepared for that summer trip to the States will take some time too—there's so much to do. Family (or friends) are visiting from home; touring for a week with them in Nara or Nikko will help them to understand Japan better.

I guess getting together with your Mrs. Kobayashi will have to wait a week or two—or maybe you can fit it in next month. But only if it is a second or fourth Friday. The other days are already pretty full. Come to think of it, the whole thing may just have to wait until you return from your summer furlough. Things are so hectic just now.

It's too late for our Mrs. Kobayashi though. Strange! Just the other day she was complaining about the dangerous traffic in our area. Said we needed better traffic control. Now she is dead—hit by a car as she was riding her bike. She won't be able to make it to our next meeting. She won't even be able to fit the second or fourth Friday into her schedule now.

Well, I gotta run to that committee meeting. I'm running late as it is. But before I left I just wanted to let you know.

Mrs. Kobayashi died last week.

JEMA News

Coming in the Harvest

- **Crusade Evangelism**
Guest Editor: Kenneth McVety
- **Retirees on U-Turn**
(Tentative Name)
Guest Editors: Harold & Edna Johnson
- **Women in Ministry**
Guest Editor: Janice Kropp

Coming Events

Billy Graham Crusade Breakfast for Missionaries

Missionaries are invited to a special breakfast with guest speaker Franklin Graham.

July 3, 8:00 a.m. at Tokyo American Club. RSVP to JEMA office required.

JEMA Summer Conference in Karuizawa

August 5-8, Union Church with Dr. Dieter Kemmler

Discipleship that Leads to Reproduction.

Seminar sponsored by JEMA Pioneer Evangelism Commission.

The Cult's Secret Weapon: Mind Control

by William Wood
Guest Editor

Approximately fifteen years ago, news of a tragedy of unprecedented proportions sent shock waves throughout the civilized world. In the jungles of Guyana, South America, 912 members of a cult called the People's Temple committed mass suicide, faithfully obeying the orders of their leader, Jim Jones. Without doubt, the most perplexing issue involved in the "Jonestown Massacre" was the question: "How could one man gain such complete and total control over the wills of so many individuals?" Since that fateful day in 1978 many psychologists and other scholars began in-depth studies on the methods cults use to train and educate their members. As a result, many cult "brain washing" techniques have been exposed, giving the general public an opportunity to understand the way a cult works, and to take preventative measures against them.

Mind control is when the cult group gains complete mastery of a member's thoughts, behavior, emotions and access to information, making the individual a slave of the organization, existing totally for the benefit of the group and its leaders.

One individual who has done extensive study in this area is Steven Hassan. He is a former member of the Unification Church, having been saved out of that cult after going through a series of de-programming sessions. While working toward a master's degree in counseling psychology from Cambridge College, Hassan began investigating the methods that various cults employ in their recruitment and training of new members. He soon began to see an unmistakable pattern emerge, a pattern that was shockingly similar to those seen in studies done on brain washing techniques used in Communist China during the early 1950s. In describing these techniques, Hassan chose to use the term "mind control" instead of "brain washing," and in his book, *Combatting Cult Mind Control*, he points out in detail the steps and methods involved.

According to Hassan, mind control is when the cult group gains complete mastery of a member's

thoughts, behavior, emotions and access to information, making the individual a slave of the organization, existing totally for the benefit of the group and its leaders. The cult member is placed in an isolated environment, bombarded with cult propaganda, pressured to believe that the cult leader is God's only channel of communication with this world, and then told that their happiness in this life and ultimate salvation depends totally upon following that leader. As a result, the individual gradually begins to lose the ability to think for themselves or make decisions on their own, eventually becoming completely dependent upon the group and its leadership. The group becomes their true family, and everyone outside is an enemy belonging to Satan. Herein lies the reason for the Jonestown tragedy, and explains why cult members continue to sacrifice their lives to obey the will of the group.

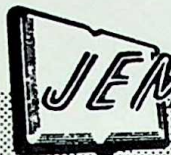
Eight years ago, a twelve-year-old Japanese boy was involved in a car accident in Kawasaki City. The boy suffered a fractured leg, along with extensive loss of blood, but upon his arrival at the hospital it was determined that his injury was not life-threatening. However, his parents, faithful members of the Jehovah's Witnesses, refused to give permission for a blood transfusion. The boy's condition steadily worsened, and he passed away five hours later.

Tragic Obedience

What was the parents' reason for letting their son die? Blood transfusions are forbidden by the Watchtower organization, and the parents firmly believed that by disobeying the teaching of "God's channel of communication," they and their son would lose all hope of entering God's paradise on earth.

The Jehovah's Witnesses is one cult group that perhaps, more than any other cult, effectively uses mind control techniques to recruit and train new members. New contacts are told from the beginning that the governing body of the Watchtower organization is "God's mouth-piece," the only people on earth who hear directly from God and can correctly interpret the Bible. (Note examples on next page.) □





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Three Unbeatable opportunities
(Just a telephone call away)

1. The Breakfast (July 3, 1993, 8:00am)

The Billy Graham Evangelistic Association is inviting all missionaries to a special breakfast at the Tokyo American Club. Franklin Graham will be speaking. There still is space available, so please notify JEMA office immediately. Short-term missionaries who will be in Japan for Mission 94 (January 13-16, 1994) are also invited.

2. The JEMA Summer Conference (August 5-8)

See inside the Japan Harvest for details. JEMA has some housing available. (Megumi Chalet : 3 rooms with twin beds)
If you want information concerning this or other housing for your time at the Karuizawa Conference, please contact the JEMA office.

3. JEMA Pioneer Evangelism Seminar

JEMA PE Commission presents
Discipleship That Leads to Reproduction
Presentations and Pointers by local Pastors

Date: Monday, October 4, 1993, 9:15 am-4:00 pm

Cost: ¥2,000 (members)

¥3,000 (non-members)

¥500 (lunch optional)

Please register with JEMA by Phone or Fax

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Watchtower Control

The following are a few examples of typical Watchtower propaganda:

"But Jehovah God has also provided his visible organization... to help Christians in all nations understand and apply properly the Bible in their lives. Unless we are in touch with this channel of communication that God is using, we will not progress along the road to life, no matter how much Bible reading we do" (*The Watchtower*, 12/1/81, p.27). "What does God require of those who will reside forever upon his Paradise Earth? A third requirement is that we be associated with God's channel, his organization.... To receive everlasting life in the earthly Paradise we must identify that organization and serve God as part of it" (*WT*, 2/15/83, p.12).

As indoctrination in the Watchtower teaching progresses, the individual is encouraged to "fight against independent thinking" (*WT*, 1/15/83, p.27), let the organization influence their every decision (*WT*, 3/15/69, p.172), and let the Watchtower direct their minds (*WT*, 3/1/83, p.25). Believers are told to "wisely destroy" any literature critical of the group (*WT*, 3/15/86, p.12), and also avoid all fellowship with people outside of the Watchtower organization (*WT*, 2/15/60, p.112). Rules regarding family, social, school, and religious life are laid out in detail, and the individual is assured that the rules are all direct commands of God, essential for eternal life.

Finally, the believer is also told in no uncertain terms that they are under obligation to share the truth with other people, if they would hope to survive Armageddon and enter God's paradise on earth. The goal of cult groups has, and always will be, to enslave individuals for the glory and profit of the cult leader. The Apostle Paul sums it up well in the second chapter of his epistle to the Colossians, verse eight, "See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ." □

Questions for Jehovah's Witnesses

Individuals exposed to mind control techniques in cult groups eventually lose the ability to think for themselves. They become totally dependent upon the group and its leader, who is always referred to as "God's prophet" or "God's mouthpiece." People outside the group are declared to be "enemies of God" and "followers of the devil." This is why it is often so difficult to communicate with a person involved in a cult. They will not listen to other people because they think they already have the truth, and that there is no need to listen to someone on the side of the devil.

There is one way to catch their attention and get them to begin thinking on their own, and that is by asking questions. Cultists will not listen to other people, but they will try to answer any questions directed at them, out of a feeling of responsibility to share the truth. Questions

can cause them to think and come to new realizations about their group, thoughts that they would have rejected if someone had simply told them.

The following is a list of questions that can be effective in dealing with Jehovah's Witnesses.

1. Who do you think the "Christian Greek Scriptures" (New Testament) were written for?

Jehovah's Witnesses have a unique "two class" religion, in which only 144,000 people are allowed to enter heaven, with the rest of mankind spending eternity on a paradise earth. Those going to heaven will reign as kings with Christ, the Watchtower says, and since 1935 their number has been filled—there are no empty seats left. All present day Jehovah's Witnesses in Japan, therefore, have no desire to go to heaven and are content with the hope of residing forever on earth. However, not many are aware of just how far the teaching about the "144,000" goes.

The June 15, 1974 issue of the *Watchtower* magazine, on page 376, states the following: "It is to the spirit-anointed Christians who will rule in that kingdom that most of the Christian Greek Scriptures is directed, including the promises of eternal life."

In line with this kind of reasoning, the Watchtower organization unabashedly declares in its publications that only the 144,000 can be born again. Only they can be part of the body of Christ; only they are allowed to be branches in Christ the Vine. They alone know the anointing and sealing of God's Spirit, and can partake of the bread and wine in Holy Communion. In this way, literally hundreds of wonderful promises from God's word are made void and null to the vast majority of mankind.

Many Jehovah's Witnesses, when they come face to face with the consequences of this doctrine, begin to have doubts about its source, the Watchtower organization. It is sometimes effective to ask them to turn to Mark 7:13 and ask, "Do you think it is right to take the inspired holy word of God and make it a book written mainly for just a handful of people?" It is also recommended that a copy of the 6/15/74



The Japan Branch Office of Jehovah's Witnesses is located at Ebina.

Watchtower be kept on hand to show the Jehovah's Witness.

2. I have noticed that in your Bible you do not use the term "cross," but rather the term "torture stake." What is your historical basis for doing that?

The Jehovah's Witnesses claim that the cross is a pagan symbol, and so therefore Christ could not have died on a cross, as the Christian church teaches. However, they are very hard pressed to produce historical evidence supporting their claim. Any encyclopedia will state quite clearly that Christ was crucified on a cross, not a stake. The Christian might challenge the Jehovah's Witness to go to the local library, do research on the subject, and then show them copies of any material that supports their stake theory.

3. I understand that you use the name "Jehovah" in addressing God, and that you believe that Christ and the leaders in the early church did the same, but are you aware of the fact that the Tetragrammaton (four Hebrew consonants of God's name in the Old Testament: JHWH or YHWH) or its transliteration never once appears in the 5000 existing Greek manuscripts of the New Testament?

Jehovah's Witnesses firmly believe that "Jehovah" is the correct transliteration of the Tetragrammaton, and that true followers of Christ must use that name in order to be saved. However, modern scholars disagree, with most preferring "Yahweh" as a more accurate rendition. The truth of the matter is that no one knows the correct rendering of God's name in the Old Testament. Debate over this issue will most likely continue for years to come, but the most important question for the Christian is, "Did Christ and the Apostles use the Old Testament name for God?" The Greek manuscripts answer with an emphatic "No." In quoting from the Old Testament, the New Testament writers without exception use the word "Kurios" (Lord) in place of the Tetragrammaton. This demonstrates, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that Jesus and the Apostles did not use the Old Testament name for God. If they did not, present day Christians do not need to either.

4. In the March 22, 1993 issue of the Awake! magazine (page 3,4), it says that the Watchtower has made mistakes in

the past, in particular, prophesying events that did not come to pass. Do you know anything about these mistakes?

The Watchtower is famous for its predictions about the end of the world coming in 1914, 1918, 1925, 1941, and 1975. However, the sad fact is that the average Jehovah's Witness knows nothing about their organization's track record on prophecy. This then provides the Christian with an opportunity to show them copies of past Watchtower literature (available from Word of Truth Ministries), and ask them if the Watchtower prophecies came to pass. Then, turning to Deuteronomy 18:20-22, one can inquire if the Watchtower organization measures up to God's standard for a true prophet. In closing, one might then ask, "Are you going to continue following a false prophet? Do you think that that prophet can lead to a knowledge of true salvation?"

5. What name do we need to know in order to be saved?

The Jehovah's Witnesses will say "Jehovah," but the Bible teaches "Jesus" (Acts 4:10-12).

6. How do you interpret Ephesians 2:8-10?

Jehovah's Witnesses believe that salvation is given only to those who demonstrate that they are worthy of it by their works (evangelism). The Bible teaches salvation by grace through faith.

These are some of the questions which can get them to begin to think and inquire for themselves. □

Why Did They Come Out?

A Jehovah's Witness Elder:

Mr. A was a successful elder in his congregation in Kobe. He and his wife both were full time Watchtower evangelists for a number of years, but began to have doubts about the organization after witnessing first-hand the competitive spirit prevalent among other elders who were striving to attain to higher positions in the organization. Mr. A's wife became ill, making it necessary for him to spend more time at home. He eventually decided to use this time to read his Bible more, and in the process, began to see the doctrinal error of the Watchtower. In particular, he came to the realization that while the Watchtower stresses a relationship with the organization, the Bible places emphasis on a personal relationship with Christ. He and his wife left the Jehovah's Witnesses six months later, and are now faithfully attending a Protestant church.

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Changing a Headache into a Blessing

by Jon Dugan
Missionary with
Bethany Fellowship

Have you ever tried playing golf in the forest without hitting any trees? That is about how difficult it is to do evangelism in Japan without running into cults. In preparing to come to Japan, I studied about Buddhism and other Japanese religions. Upon arriving here, however, I met with an unexpected challenge. It was the wave from the West. I discovered that along with Levi's jeans and Mister Donut, Western cults had also made it big. In the fall of 1986 my wife and I began going door-to-door in our church planting area. Within a couple of weeks we came across both a Mormon lady and one studying with the Jehovah's Witnesses. If we thought it was coincidence, we were in for a surprise. After moving into our target area we were overwhelmed to see large groups of dark suited J.W.s combing through our apartment complex day in and day out! What a frustrating feeling trying to reach people by myself while everyday watching literally dozens of modern-day Arians beating me to the punch!

It wasn't long before our fifth floor apartment was on the J.W.s' visitation list. Once or twice a week a new pair of Watchtower salesmen would show up at my door and start their pitch. My first reaction was to take them head on with extended Bible-banging discussions. It was of no avail. Just when I felt like giving up, God arranged a series of events which changed my thinking and opened up a whole new ministry. One day I met a J.W. *kenkyuusei* who was open to hear about the Bible from us. Within a relatively short time she called off the J.W. book studies and together with her husband began attending our church. A few months later the mother of an English student opened up that she had studied with the Watchtower for several years. Through careful relationship building and Bible study, she too cut ties with the Watchtower and later was baptized.

Since then our outreach to the J.W.s has snowballed. Three years ago we started New Life Ministries. The ministry has four focuses. The first is neighborhood cult-prevention mass flyer distribution. The second area is direct intervention arranged through friends or relatives of the cultist. The third is a care group of ex-J.W.s which meets every two months. The final focus is on educating Christians through seminars at local churches.

For many Christian workers, the cult issue is a perennial headache. But we have seen God turn this problem into a new channel for evangelism and extension of His kingdom!

The New World Translation

by William Wood
Word of Life Ministries

The *New World Translation* was first published in 1950, and later revised in 1951 and 1960. The names of the five individuals on the translating committee have been kept anonymous, though they are rumored to have been the following five members of the Watchtower "Governing Body": Nathan Knorr, Fred Franz, George Gangas, Milton Herschell, and A.D. Schroeder. None are either Greek or Hebrew scholars, and their translation has never been acknowledged by any reputable present day scholar. The *NWT* claims to be the most accurate translation of the Holy Scriptures, but the authors have, in reality, distorted many passages to comply with Watchtower doctrine.

One notable example is found in John 1:1, where they translate the latter part of the verse "and the word was a god." Numerous other passages with regard to the deity of Christ have been tampered with as well, including Hebrews 1:8, Colossians 2:9, and Titus 2:13. The word "other" is deliberately inserted into the text four times in Colossians 1:16,17 in order to prove that Christ is a created being. Worship offered to Christ is rendered as "doing obeisance" (Matthew 14:33). The Holy Spirit is referred to as "it" (1 Corinthians 12:11). The sinner who prayed for God's mercy in Christ's parable was not justified, but "went down to his home proved more righteous than that man" (Luke 18:14). Christ's words to the dying thief on the cross are changed to read, "Truly I tell you today, you will be with me in Paradise" (Luke 23:43).

Why Did They Come Out?

A Housewife:

Mrs. B started studying with the Jehovah's Witnesses, hoping that it would make her a better wife and mother. During the first stages of her study emphasis was placed on obeying scriptural principles that apply to the home, but after becoming a baptized believer, messages at the Kingdom Hall began to center around the importance of going door-to-door in evangelism. Mrs. B was told, "It really doesn't matter what happens to your home. Put evangelism first, and your children and husband will eventually understand." This bit of advice produced a question mark in Mrs. B's mind that refused to go away.

For a number of years she continued doing 90 hours of door-to-door work a month, but finally reached the point where she knew she had to take an objective look at the organization. After many days and weeks of Bible reading, she made her decision to leave the Watchtower and become a follower of Jesus Christ.

**Books to Help with
Jehovah's Witnesses**

Cetnar, Bill & Joan, *Questions for Jehovah's Witnesses*, William I. Cetnar, 1983.

Franz, Raymond, *Crisis of Conscience*, Commentary Press, Atlanta, Georgia, USA, 1983.

Franz, Raymond, *In Search of Christian Freedom*, Commentary Press, Atlanta, Georgia, USA, 1991.

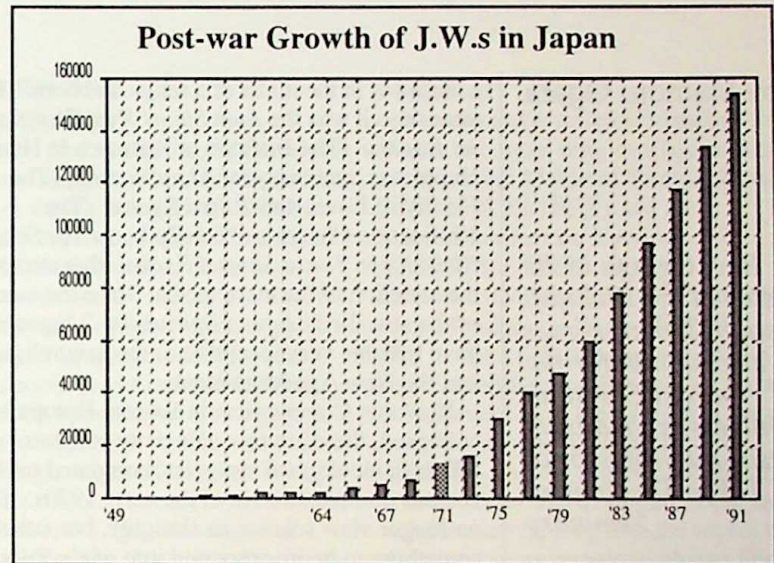
Magnani, Duane & Barrett, Arthur, *Dialogue with Jehovah's Witness*, Witness Inc., Clayton, California, USA, 1983.

Reed, David A., *How to Rescue Your Loved One from the Watchtower*, Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA, 1989.

Reed, David A., *Index of Watchtower Errors*, Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA, 1990.

Reed, David A., *Behind the Watchtower Curtain*, Crowne Publications, Inc., Southbridge, Massachusetts, USA, 1989

A number of excellent pamphlets and books in Japanese have been written by William Wood.



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The New Religion Boom

by Mamoru Ogata

Rev. Ogatga is the pastor of the Kichijoji Christian Center, serves as chaplain for the Ibaraki Christian University, and is an assistant professor at Tokyo Theological Seminary

Japan is in the midst of a religious boom. Three years ago it was the *Aum Shinri Kyo*, then *Kofuku no Kagaku* (The Institute of Research in Human Happiness, and last year *Ai no Kazoku* (The Family of Love) and *Toitsu Kyokai* (The Unification Church), officially known as *Sekai Kirisutokyo Toitsu Shinrei Kyokai* that attracted the attention of the mass media. Since the coming of the so-called "Age of Spirituality," Japanese have become very receptive to the new religions and the New Age Movement.

Now that Communism in Eastern Europe has collapsed, there are few university students active in ideological struggles, compared to their zealous contemporaries of the early 1970s. They no longer view science as almighty, but rather as something to be incorporated into one's daily life. There is even a kind of movement to consider science in relation to religion, feeling that there is no conflict between the two.

Some students cannot accept the life style of their parents, who have worked so hard to get ahead during the period of high economic growth. Instead they choose to pursue mystical experiences in this world. It seems that the wave of recession ushered in by the bursting of the economic bubble has given impetus to the youth as well as the rest of society to seek spiritual fulfillment in religion and the New Age Movement.

Another factor is the widespread concern about what is happening to and in our world in these times. Japanese young people have begun to ask themselves what kind of foundation they want to build their lives on.

The plunge into the new religions and the New Age Movement is causing Japan's third and fourth religious booms, following a global trend. After the collapse of Communism, the New Age Movement has become a spiritual force against Christianity in Eastern Europe. This movement unifies all ideologies and religions, and is shaped by the pantheistic thinking of the Orient. It strives to recognize the divine in human beings, and is inclined toward the occult. It is not an organization but a spiritual wave and a network which is spreading into many fields of present day society. It has infiltrated education, business, integrated medicine and religion, affecting the entire Western world. It is now pushing its way into Japan as one of the strongest anti-Christian forces.

They use techniques such as transcendental meditation, trans-personal psychology, worldly

positive thinking, supernatural power, psychokinesis, telepathy, channeling, mediums, spiritual visions, prophecy, yoga, spiritual healing, relaxation, etc. Magazines and books piled high on the book store shelves deal with the new religions, or the occult seen in spiritual phenomenon, or prophecies such as those of Nostradamus, Swendenbourg, or Casey. All of this leads people away from Christ by giving a form of spiritual release unrelated to Him.

There are two types of people in Japan who are seeking after the mystical things of this world. First, there are those who are reluctant to get involved in the structured system of the new religions, but follow the New Age Movement thinking as individuals. Then there are those who are group oriented, who easily participate in the new religions.

In the traditional religions, there is a tendency to deny the secular way of life. However, the New Age and new religions affirm this world and the pursuit of gain. They seek after some mystical experience not in the other world, but in this world.

When I went to the *doojoo*, or the training place of the *Aum Shinri Kyo* to do research, I came across a young lady who had shaved her head and was practicing meditation. She had just withdrawn from Hosei University, had abandoned plans for marriage, and was preparing to become a nun. To my question of why she withdrew from the university to join this religion, she answered that everyone is the same once they die. She would rather have mystical experiences in this life for her spiritual release. Her way of thinking is quite common in the lives of young people today. □



The New Religions

Kofuku no Kagaku

(幸福の化学)

Kofuku no Kagaku (The Institute of Research in Human Happiness), founded by 36-year-old Ryuho Ohkawa, has become very popular by making use of so called "communications from the spirit world." It tries to unify all studies, all ideologies, and all religions around the principle of happiness. The basis for this happiness is love, wisdom, reflection, and development. They define love as "giving love" and "no compensation love," wisdom as "the truth descended from heaven," and reflection as "looking back over one's life and taking a turn for the better." Development is "growing daily in one's soul and personality." They also teach the Karmaic cycle of life and rebirth. Their aim in life is to pursue happiness and build a utopian paradise on earth.

Christ is considered to be one of the leading spirits on the ninth dimension; Buddha is the head, after which comes Christ, Confucius, El, Ranty, Moses, Manu, Maitoreya, Newton, Zeus and Zoraster. They say that El Cantare is the highest leading spirit on the earth (*Laws of the Sun*, R. Ohkawa). They deny the redemption of Jesus Christ on the cross and also His resurrection, for they maintain that it was only by the power of spirit that the disciples saw His spirit. They renounce the virgin birth and say that Jesus Himself was sinful (*Spiritual Guidance of Jesus Christ*, R. Ohkawa).

This ultra new religion has gained great popularity especially among young people, for it matches the needs of those who are experiencing difficulty preparing for high school and university entrance examinations. All one has to do to become a member is to submit a report after reading several books among the 150 works written by Ryuho Ohkawa. Such an approach breaks from traditional religious thinking, and is even different from the other new religions. Young people seem to feel a sense of security in this religion, as it is easy to join and easy to leave.

Aum Shinri Kyo

(オウム 真理教)

Aum Shinri Kyo is also one of the youth-centered new religions. Siva of Hinduism is ranked as the highest god, and Shoko Asahara, the founder of this sect, is called a guru or honorable master (*Sonshi* in Japanese) on the same level as Buddha, for he has achieved the highest rank of spiritual release. In keeping with the tendency of young people to idolize their leaders, members look upon him as a living god.

Aum Shinri Kyo tries to achieve spiritual release through stages of training in Yoga, based on the cosmic concept common both to Buddhism and Yoga. The stages of training are *Yoruko*, *Ichiraiko*, *Fugenko*, *Arahanko*, *Rajar Yoga*, *Skr. Mahayana Yoga*, *Astoral Yoga*, *Kozaru Yoga*, and finally *Mahayana*. Asahara is said to have obtained the highest rank of *Mahayana*.

More than 800 young people have abandoned their desires for marriage, have shaved their heads to become monks, and are practicing an ascetic life style. A dissatisfaction with life and this world is driving these young people to such extremes. They desire to go on to higher stages of spiritual development by retiring into religion and giving themselves to austere practices. Even though the approach is different, both *Aum Shinri Kyo* and *Kofuku no Kagaku* have captivated many young people by meeting their needs.

Shinji Shumei Kai

(神滋秀明会)

Those who approach people in front of a station and say, "Please allow me to pray for your health and happiness for three minutes" are members of the *Shinji Shumei Kai*. They offer healing and miracles through the cleansing of one's spirit by means of *tekazashi* (laying on of hands to transfer power). When people receive this "cleansing of spirit," they actually accept the evil spirits that work in this religion. It is therefore recommended that one not participate. Those who might have already received it, need to repent and ask Christ for forgiveness.

Mahikari (真光)

The ultra new religion Mahikari includes two main religious bodies which are the Sekai Mahikari Bunmei Kyodan (世界真光文明教団) and the Sukyo Mahikari no Kyodan (崇教真光の教団). Both of them practice *tekazashi*, which is referred to as Mahikari no Waza (真光の業), or "practicing the power of true light." Mahikari teaches that all forms of unhappiness have their origin in the evil activities of a devil called Hyoirei (憑依霊), and the power of Mahikari is used to cast this devil out. These last two religions are tapping into the recent tendency of young people to plunge into a religion that emphasizes occult miracles involving *tekazashi*.

Other Powers

Perhaps we would not classify the following as a religion, but possessors of spiritual power such as Aiko Jinbo often draw the attention of the mass media. Jinbo emphasizes visions, saying that she sees the ancestor's spirit on the back of an individual. She then advises the person to have a chant said for the ancestor. Her view of the dead and the world after death is common among new religions. One reason for the popularity of the new religions is that they have incorporated chants for the ancestors, something which penetrates deeply into the lives of people in this country.

Since the economic bubble burst and recession has set in, Japanese people tend to seek fulfillment not in communistic ideology, worldly success, or "almighty science," but rather in the spiritual and religious world. Young people running after new religions or the New Age Movement is an indication of this society's mind-set.

The hunger for "spiritual" things" points to the fact that we are living in an era of great possibilities for revival. As we preach the gospel simply but boldly in the power of the Holy Spirit, and receive signs and miracles from the Lord, we shall surely bear fruit in evangelism. □

How to Help Victims of The New Religions

by Mamoru Ogata

Rev. Ogata graduated from Waseda University, Tokyo Theological Seminary, Bethel Seminary & Fuller Seminary.

He participates regularly in panel discussions on church growth and spiritual warfare

People can be rescued from these zealous new Japanese religions. Let me share with you some things that I have learned.

First of all, remember that every Christian has a responsibility to witness for Jesus Christ no matter who the person is, or what he believes. The work of witnessing for Jesus and the deliverance ministry are closely related, but the latter includes the process of the withdrawal from membership of the group to accepting faith in Jesus Christ; it is more focused, requiring more in-depth study.

When distributing tracts or doing home visitation evangelism we often find members of the new religions. When you do find such a person, don't look upon them as an enemy, but rather be friendly and avoid arguing. Try to get them to share their problems with you, and you share your salvation experience with them. Also, tell them in love about the truth of the Bible while sharing your own salvation experience. Christ was crucified for all people, whatever their religion. They too will be saved if they repent of their sins and believe in Jesus Christ. We have to love the believers of the new religions as our neighbors, and not look upon them as enemies.

As most of the new religions have a tendency to emphasize righteousness by works, it is necessary to emphasize that the Christian salvation comes by faith alone. Great importance is often placed on chanting for the ancestors, so we need to study the Bible concerning the issue of the spirits of the dead. Obviously it is profitable to know the characteristics of your contact's new religion. However, be careful about getting young Christians involved in such study because this can open them up to the wrong spiritual influence.

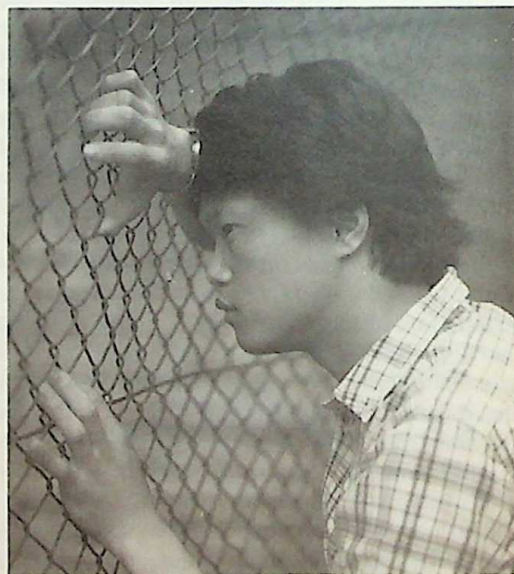
The Spiritual Battle

We must remember that this work of evangelizing is a spiritual struggle. Your contact is not the real enemy. The Bible says, "Our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms" (Ephesians 6:12). The real battle is with the devil and evil spirits that dominate and deceive with their false teachings. The Bible predicts that "in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons" (1 Timothy 4:1).

We cannot fight with our own power, but must

put on the full spiritual armor (Eph. 6;10-20) to win in this spiritual war. For evangelizing new religion believers, we need to arm ourselves with the mighty power of the Spirit, the belt of the truth of Christ and His word, the breastplate of righteousness by His blood, the gospel of peace, and the shield of faith. We need positive faith that believes for salvation, holiness, casting out of evil spirits, and miracles.

We need the sword of the Spirit, God's Word, along with all kinds of prayers and a bold gospel witness that does not fear persecution. Within the expression, "all kinds of prayers," there is prayer of intercession, repentance, requests, fasting, as well as that for casting out evil spirits. When I am with a believer of a new religion, I am praying in my heart to cast out the evil spirits from them. Also, I try to prepare by prayer and fasting before ministering to them.



In addition, we must not forget the words of Revelation 12:11, "They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death." The redemptive blood of Jesus Christ and our own experience of salvation and victory over the devil are all keys for helping people out of the new religions.

Several new religions make miracles their trademark. It is necessary to give these people demonstrations of the Lord's power to perform miracles today. This is called "power evangelism." It played a vital role in the ministry of Jesus Christ Himself, the Apostles, and the early

church. This type of ministry is effective in evangelizing believers of the new religions. Churches should be encouraged in the area of healing and spiritual deliverance by the prayer of faith in the name of Jesus Christ and in the power of the Spirit.

Practical Wisdom

The following points should be remembered when working to deliver a new religion believer.

It is better not to work alone. Get the support of a pastor or someone who has a good working knowledge of this field, and fellow Christians who will intercede for you. Also make sure that the deliverance group is well prepared spiritually.

Those who are involved need to have a certain amount of information which will give insight into the person's religion. The one doing this research should be a spiritually stable Christian.

It is dangerous for someone who was delivered from a new religion in the past, but has not yet been completely healed of spiritual wounds, to be involved in the deliverance process for someone else. Without an experience of repentance and total healing, they are likely to be attacked spiritually again as they were in the past. They should not even have new religion materials in their possession, but should turn it over to a pastor. Even for someone who has been healed of wounds due to past involvement in a new religion, it is important to have a special calling from the Lord to participate in deliverance work, and carry out the ministry under the guidance of a pastor.

In one case of trying to save a student out of the *Shinji Shumeikai*, I prepared much in prayer, and was supported by the prayers of a circle of Christians. When I met her for the first time, I tried to be friendly, listening to her reasons for joining the group, and waiting for her to open up to me. Once she did open her heart, I used *Shinji Shumeikai* materials and pointed out how highly structured the organization was and how many levels of activities the believers had to go through. As she was a new believer and had not done *tekazashi* (spiritual purification) in public, I told her about the course the believers have to take, and that she would be forced to participate in *tekazashi* related activities. That caused her to begin to have

doubts, as she had never been told she would have to do those things. Because I was able to use the group's materials I was able to gain credibility with her.

We went to the branch office of the *Shinji Shumeikai* and notified them of her withdrawal from the religion. A woman in the office, whom the girl looked upon as her spiritual parent, tried her best to stop her, but once she realized how determined we were, she asked the advice of her superior, and then became much more understanding. However, even since the young girl withdrew her membership, the woman continues to visit her. It is important never to be off-guard, but continue giving spiritual guidance after the individual has left the group. In this religion they emphasize a parent-child vertical relationship for their discipleship training. A new believer has a "parent" who has led the person into the religion. The new believer will then become a "parent" when he or she leads someone else into the group.

In the deliverance process, the testimony of a person who has withdrawn from the new religion can be very effective. It is also helpful to have the support of the person's family. If they continue to participate in the new religion, the spiritual influence will become stronger, and the deliverance will become more difficult. Therefore it is necessary for them to spend time with their family and have ample opportunity to reflect and think things over for themselves. The deliverance process becomes easier if you can get the cooperation of the family, change the environment, and get a chance to speak with them thoroughly.

Even if no family cooperation is available, you must take time to speak with the believer regularly. The deliverance process requires perseverance. It means never giving up, but continuing to speak the truth in love, and being their friend. □



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Tohoku Rescue Mission

by Calvin Cummings
Missionary with
Orthodox
Presbyterian Church,
working as a church
planter in Sendai

Twenty-six years ago a young man not long out of high school was attracted to the Unification Church (UC) by its deceiving promises of love and world peace. For five years Tomiya Taguchi studied earnestly and sacrificed personal comfort that he might gain merit in the eyes of the "church" and the self-appointed "messiah," Sun-Myung Moon. During those five years he rose to the level of instructor of "The Principles"; yet he remained disillusioned with all the broken promises and groundless claims. Unfulfilled and disenchanted, Tomiya made a bold escape as he "walked out" on an assignment to Hokkaido along with the young woman who would later become his wife, Kazuko Miyashita. That was 1972. In 1981 Mr. Taguchi and his wife became Christians at a special Christmas service in a small church in Sapporo. In 1986 a Christian friend asked Taguchi to help him persuade a young college student to leave the UC and follow Jesus. Since then, over the past seven years, while working full-time as a civil engineer and raising three children, Tomiya and Kazuko have been used of the Lord to rescue more than 90 people from the UC, nearly half of whom have become Christians.

Last year in April the Taguchis moved to Sendai and began worshipping at our church. What a blessing they have been to our fellowship as they demonstrate their zeal for the Lord and their desire to see the lost saved. The very day their phone was hooked up the first connecting call to "rescue" was received. Since then not a week has gone by without someone being at some stage of the rescue process, with thirteen young people leaving the UC church this past year.

Throughout the Tohoku area the UC continues its aggressive recruitment among college and nursing students and young professionals. In Sendai alone, where the student and young professional population is quite high, the church has a membership of nearly 800. After gaining vital information through a questionnaire the recruiters invite "desired" candidates (The UC does not seek old folks, handicapped, or those with less than a high school diploma) to an all-expense-paid outing at some place like a resort for recreation and fun. Friendships are aggressively pursued and soon the recruits are brought to the video center where they are introduced to the teachings of Moon, and the mind-control indoctrination begins. Recruits are quickly woven into the system of "volunteer" service and deeper study. Palm reading, horoscopes, astrology, etc.

are used to predict the future destinies of the recruits and their families. Young singles and lonely housewives are prime targets for such enticements and pressure as they play heavily on the need for friends and the sense of obligation within the Japanese society. Among those who are recruited there is an alarming number of people who have previously had a little dose of Christianity.

The UC in Japan has taken on a Buddhist quality. In the early days when Kazuko first went into the UC in the late 1960s she was attracted by the worship services and singing, similar to

The UC teaches that Jesus failed when he died on the cross, and that God is saddened by his inability to overcome his enemies. The fact that Jesus is God and he rose from the dead to give life and hope is nowhere to be found in their teaching.

many Christian services. Now-a-days the attraction is the Buddhist-like character of praying for ones ancestors, buying religious icons, and paying penance. These practices are used to bring healing to the sick. Questions like "Who is my real family?" and "What is true love?" become part of the mind-control patterns which teach denial of self and bring mystical union with the messiah, Myung-sun Moon. Group loyalty and complete submission to the *sensei* are a part of the dehumanizing enslaving practices. The UC has had success in Japan through its ability to adapt its deceits to the Japanese religious mind set.

With this as background let me share with you an interview that we had with the Taguchis. Hopefully it will add to your understanding of the UC and how the gospel can be more effectively brought to those being rescued and to other Japanese as well.

CC: You have been involved in rescuing many from the UC. Could you tell us how you go about it?

Taguchi: Those who have been indoctrinated by the UC have sold their souls to the devil. The head of Satan must be crushed first before the life can be restored. Since the UC controls the very lives and thoughts of its members it is virtually impossible to bring about any change

Mr. Tomiya Taguchi



Unification Church

without isolating them completely from that environment. To do this and begin the rescue we must get full cooperation and commitment from the parents.

CC: *Can you describe that operation for us?*

Taguchi: As I said, the full commitment on the part of the family is necessary. An interview is set up with them. A plan is devised to meet and move the member to a previously rented apartment out of the stream of the UC knowledge and contact. A commitment of several months with 24 hour surveillance is necessary. After the "pick up" is made and all are safe and secure in the apartment, my wife and I and a support team of former members and Christian workers begin counsel and Bible study. I begin by using "body jabs," exposing the lies and false claims of the UC. The head of Satan has to be crushed. Then the support group gets involved with Bible studies. My wife uses two books in her study with them: *Who is Jesus* by Paxton and *Dynamics of Service* by Paget Wilkes. We need to both expose the lies of Moon and to tell the truth of God.

CC: *In the process of deprogramming and redirecting their lives what are some of the differences between Christianity and the UC which make it difficult for them to leave the UC and believe in Christ?*

Taguchi: One of the greatest stumbling blocks is the difference between grace and works.

The UC teaches that salvation is 95% God's work and 5% the individual's effort. The 5% or *dougen* (A Korean word which I can't really explain) includes many long hours ringing doors bells trying to sell various items, taking surveys, proselytizing, and studying *The Principles*. There is never any assurance one has done enough to gain full salvation. Thus when they hear the message of salvation by grace alone which Luther and Calvin taught, it is hard for them to believe. They are often bewildered by the fact that Christians don't seem to be doing anything.

Another concept which is difficult for them to grasp is that Christ has not failed but triumphed. The UC teaches that Jesus failed when he died on the cross, and that God is saddened by his inability to overcome his enemies. The fact that Jesus is God and he rose from the dead to give life and hope is nowhere to be found in their teaching. Of course, the Bible teaches that Jesus did it all. He is alive and sends his Holy Spirit (not Mrs. Moon) into our hearts to unite us to Him. However, They

have been taught of Christ's defeat and God's disappointment to the point that when they are rejected by family or prospective customers they believe they are experiencing godliness. There is no glory of God's grace. They cannot understand the triumph of God's grace.

CC: *What are some areas in which we who have not been in the UC might effectively help in rescue?*

Taguchi: They need to hear the whole truth; that means Bible study. They need to know the God of the Bible. They need to know Jesus. You can work together with those who are knowledgeable about the UC and expose the lies and teach the truth. At the same time there is a great need to minister to their families. The parents are open to the gospel as well.

CC: *Are there areas in which we need to be careful in working with them?*

Taguchi: You must remember that the UC is built on deception and lies. I have many documents where Christians pastors have accepted invitations to ecumenical meetings sponsored by the UC only to find out that they were being used as public relations tools to show that the UC was joining hands with mainstream Christianity. They are liars and deceivers and there is no truth in them.

CC: *Are there others areas in the rescue where we might be helpful?*

Taguchi: It is risky. The UC operates much like the yakuza with its nation-wide network of "churches." They will harass and put a lot of pressure through slander and disruptions. But the blessings far outweigh the difficulties. We have seen nearly half of those who have left the UC become Christians, and nearly half of their families have become believers as well.

That seems to be a very high percentage for Japan doesn't it? There is a lot of sacrifice and commitment involved, but isn't that what being a disciple of Christ is all about? It is a privilege to be serving Him in thanksgiving for what He has done for us.

Mr. Taguchi has written a book, *Rescue From the Unification Church* (In Japanese only). It is now in its third printing, and is available at most Christian bookstores, a good book to pass on to others. He is also involved in networking with others in such rescue ministry. We rejoice in seeing God's grace at work. □

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A Glance at The New Religions

“ We are living in an era of great possibilities for revival. As we preach the gospel simply but boldly in the power of the Holy Spirit, and receive signs and miracles from the Lord, we shall surely bear fruit in evangelism. ”

Mamoru Ogata

Religion (Adherents)	Characteristics
Agonshu (阿含宗) 210,000	Meditation in meditation center. “Star Festival” held February in Kyoto where a “sacred fire” is burned. Chant for ancestors.
Aum Shinri Kyo (オウム 真理会) 8,000	Siva is the highest god. and Shoko Asahara is considered a guru. They organize many kinds of training courses for developing “super power.”
Byakko Shinko Kai (白光真光会) 500,000	Famous for slogan “May the people on earth be happy.”
Gedatsukai (解脱会) 240,000	By acquiring the “secret method,” one can cleanse the person's spirit and get rid of bad luck.
Jissen Rinri Koseikai (実践倫理宏正会) 20,000	As an act of practical ethics, make “morning oath.”
Kofuku no Kagaku (幸福の化学) 1,520,000	About 150 books written by founder Ryuho Ohkawa based on communication with the spirit world.
PL Kyodan (PL教団) 2,040,000	“PL” stands for “Perfect Liberty. Stress that “life is an art.” Mixes Bible with various human ideologies.
Reiha no Hikari Kyokai (霊波之光教会) 750,000	The founder is considered to be a direct descendant of the great cosmic god. Mystical phenomenon caused by “spiritual waves” from god is stressed.
Reiyukai (霊友会) 3,200,000	Emphasis on chants for the dead.
Rissho Koseikai 6,270,000 (立正佼成会)	Emphasis on ancestral chant. Small group activities called Hoza.
Seicho no Ie (成長の家) 840,000	The Actual Condition of Life, by Masaharu Taniguchi is the key to all doctrine. All problems have their origin in the heart.
Sekai Kyusei Kyo 840,000 (世界救世教)	Mokichi Okada, founder. Cleansing of spirit by tekazashi.
Sekai Mahikari Bunmei Kyodan 90,000 (世界真光文明教団)	Practice mahikari no waza by tekazashi.
Shinnyoen (真如苑) 260,000	Proselyte by sesshin shugyo, or “heart-to-heart contact training” which is combined with development of spiritual power, as well as practical activities like cleaning in front of stations.
Soka Gakkai (創価学会) 17,050,000	Taisaku Ikeda, honorary president, is a very influential person well known for round table discussions with world leaders. Chant prayers to obtain happiness.
Sukyo Mahikari (崇教真光) 800,000	Mahikari no waza (practicing the truth of light) using tekazashi.
Taiyo wo Shinjiru Pyramid no Kai 500 (太陽を信じるピラミッドの会)	Taking away the pain of dead spirits (animals, plants, aborted babies) and helping all spirits to ascend to sun. UFO's are souls of ancestors.
Tenrikyo (天理教) 2,000,000	Building the “cheerful life” world.
Zenrinkai (善隣会) 590,000	By confession and appeal to the founder, one can be unified with god instantaneously.



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Highlights:



1. Summer Church begins on Sunday morning, July, 18. The morning worship service is at 10:30 and the evening service at 7:00.
2. SUNDAY SCHOOL will start at 9:30 during the seven Sundays of the summer program. Volunteer teachers are needed.
3. PRAYER MEETING will be held each Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.
4. DEEPER LIFE Convention is scheduled for July 29 - August 1, with Rev. Thomas Shaw as speaker.
5. KUC Annual Business meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 3 at 7:00 p.m. All members are urged to attend.
6. JEMA SUMMER CONFERENCE is from August 5 - 8 with Dr. Dieter Kemmler as speaker. Special music will be provided by Roy and Dorothy Buss Morden of Palm Springs, California.
7. YOUTH CONFERENCE August 6 & 7 (9:00 - 12:00)

SEE YOU THIS SUMMER!

God's Hand From Here to Nashville

by Alan Doerksen

Mr. Doerksen serves as a short-term missionary with O.M.F.

*Sometimes I cried,
"Lord, please let we
evangelize in Japan
full time!"*

God's hand often reaches around the world to touch Japanese. And sometimes He slaps a guitar into the hand and says, "Play for me."

Although he got his start as a country musician in Nashville, Tennessee, Noboru Morishige now lives in Hawaii and visits Japan regularly to present concerts of Christian music.

Morishige is a Japanese musician who started playing the violin when he was seven years old. Once he was in college, he began playing country music. At age 22, he decided to go to Nashville, the home of country music, to study. But then, something unexpected happened. Morishige explains: "I wanted to go to school and study there. But I played in a music club as a favor for a guy and got hired! So, I didn't have a chance to be an apprentice. I was put immediately to work."

So, after only two weeks in Nashville, Morishige was already working. "The people there thought I was better than I really was," he says. "I really wasn't all that good, but I sure got to practice a lot. Because they thought I was a pro, before we went onstage, they'd only spend a minute or two planning what songs to do! They already knew what they were doing. But of course, it was all new to me."

He spent about six years in Nashville. During this time, he became a Christian. "I was sharing a house with 12 or 13 other people," he says.



"About half of them were Christians. I had grown up in a typical Japanese home, influenced by Shintoism and Buddhism. But we didn't know God, and I made fun of all religions. 'I've got guts -- I don't need religion' is what I thought."

As Morishige got to know these Christians better, he wanted to discuss Christianity with them, but didn't know enough English. He did have a Japanese Bible, so he started reading it.

"Then I started to wonder why it was I didn't believe in God," says Morishige. "Number one — it's not taught in school. Secondly, if you talked about it, you got made fun of." After careful consideration, he came to the conclusion, "If those were my only two reasons, maybe there is a God."

Soon, Morishige became a Christian. While in America, he felt no resistance to his new faith, but when he returned to Japan in 1978 he certainly did. He says that at first, "I let what others thought stop me from talking about His love. But God said 'What are you doing?' and helped me get over it."

Morishige then began playing guitar instead of violin. "You can't sing while you play a fiddle," he explains, "I had a message now."

He felt a call to evangelize the Japanese people, but as he explains, "I knew the Lord had called me, but instead He led me back to the U.S. to teach me and humble me to prepare me for further ministry."

For the last six years, Morishige has been living in Hilo, Hawaii, with his wife and three children. In the last few years he has made four tapes and one CD. He sings and writes his own songs which he uses for evangelism. Recently, Morishige has been travelling to Japan two or three times a year to present Christian music concerts in churches.

In a letter to the JEMA office he said, "I work as a carpenter in Hilo, never got what we call steady job, even though I wanted to have one. Now I know the Lord planned that way for me. I always wanted to be supported financially by churches and Christians, but it never happened either. The Lord always wanted me to work for a living. Sometimes I cried, "Lord, please let we evangelize in Japan full time!"

Morishige welcomes invitations from churches and other Christian organizations. For more information please contact him at P.O. Box 1666, Keaau, Hawaii, 96749, USA. □



Rev. Thomas Shaw, MA, MTh.

Karuizawa

Deeper Life Convention

Karuizawa Union Church July 29 - August 1, 1993

Thursday 7pm, Friday 10 am & 7 pm,

Saturday 10 am & 7 pm, Sunday 10:30 am & 7 pm

Rev. Thomas Shaw was born near Kilsyth in Scotland and grew up near Ballymena in Northern Ireland. (Both of these places have experienced spiritual revivals in the past.) He is married to Mabel who is a school teacher and they have a married son, Stephen, and a daughter, Ruth; both are in their twenties.

Mr. Shaw is a graduate of the Faith Mission Bible College, Edinburgh, Scotland, Union Theological College, Belfast, and Geneva Theological College. After working as an evangelist with the Faith Mission in Britain for six years, he became a minister in the Congregational Church in Ireland, where he has served for the past twenty-eight years. (The Congregational Church in Ireland is a strongly evangelical denomination.)

Along with his regular church ministry, Mr. Shaw is President of the Faith Mission in Britain and serves on the Councils of several Missionary Societies.

His ministry has taken him to many parts of the British Isles as well as Holland, France, Africa, India, South America, Israel and North America.

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Potpourri & Promises

by Janice A. Kropp

"His Touch makes the difference!"

"People were bringing...children to Jesus, to have Him TOUCH them...and He took the children in His arms and put His hands on them and blessed them,"

Mark 10:13,16

For a moment let's allow ourselves a visit to Mark's Gospel to observe the flow of Christ's ministry. In chapters 1 & 3 throngs of people gathered around Jesus. Certainly, among these were many, many children! In chapter 5, Jesus was called to heal a twelve-year-old girl. In chapter 6 it was the lunch of a boy used by the Lord to satisfy the huge, hungry crowd of men. In chapter 9 a desperate father brought his son to Jesus for healing. In the accounts of the twelve-year-old (chapter 5) and the only son (chapter 9) Jesus reached out his hand and gave them His TOUCH. Then in chapter 10 we find parents seeking out a TOUCH from the Lord. I can imagine that the parents saw what his TOUCH meant. Healing needed or not, how blessed to have a TOUCH from the Master!

Once a month I enjoy going to Christian Academy cafeteria to help with lunch. I love to see my own high school boys, Alan and Donn, and their friends in the school environment. I love to see the children of my special missionary colleagues, including Jill, Heidi L., Esther, Heidi S., Katie, Daniel, Mary and Heather. I simply enjoy watching all the students, young and older, going through the line, interacting and just being themselves.

This month, I was on the look-out for one special young lady. Now, I believe with all my heart in the "specialness" of each and every student at CAJ. This young lady is doubly special, however.

First, she's special because she is a child created by God, the first born child of Flossie and Russ Epley, and second because, unlike all the other children, Christina Joy is hearing impaired.

Christina's mother, Flossie, is tall, slender, with short dark hair, and blue eyes. She's a gentle person who always wears a smile. How is it that this gentle, thoughtful, graceful woman was able to handle the irreversible diagnosis of her cherished daughter? Flossie gave me a write-up of her experience in which she explains, "Christy had various tests including a BSER (brainstem evoked response) Test where she was put to sleep in my lap. Electrodes were attached to her head and connected to a computer. She wore headphones that transmitted sounds of varying intensity. As I sat watching the computer screen show NO reactions to sound, I knew my daughter was deaf." She continues, "As the audiologist told me his findings, an incredible sense of peace filled me. I had had a very happy childhood, many happy experiences, and a loving husband. It was as if during those 'easy' years, God had been filling a big vat with grace just for me. Then, at the moment I really needed it, He dumped this overflowing reservoir of grace on me all at once. I have never felt God's presence so acutely in my life as I did at that moment."

Flossie, the daughter of Harold and Edna Johnson, is a second generation missionary. She and her husband, Russell, serve under TEAM. It was during their first term that they became aware of Christy's handicap. From birth until the day after Christy's first birthday the thought never occurred to them that anything might be wrong with their baby daughter. Flossie writes, "After the meal at a Mission Meeting, some children were romping around

playing. A balloon popped right behind Christy's head, but she didn't react at all. Another missionary pointed it out to me and asked if it bothered me. I didn't know what to think. The fact that she might be hearing impaired was a new thought to me." After various simple tests at home, the Epleys knew that there was indeed a serious problem and Flossie writes, "That night I couldn't sleep as I cried and thought about many things." As she shared with her dear husband her fears, he comforted her with the words of, "If Christy were not deaf, then all the worry would be in vain. If Christy were deaf, we could trust her to the Lord's care because during your pregnancy we had prayed specifically that God would make her just the way He wanted her to be." Then the Lord, in His loving way, got the Epleys back to the States, where they received accurate diagnosis and help.

Can you imagine the tremendous task before this young family? Many momentous barriers lay before them all at once. Sound? Sound, what is it if you've never heard it? How is sound made, anyway? What must one do to make sound? How does one communicate the fact that sounds come from the throat? A specialist, noticing Christy's fascination with lights, came up with the idea of using a voice light. The light went on when the teacher said, "AH." Little Christy wanted so badly to make that



Hellen Keller once said,
"Blindness separates one
from things, but deafness
separates one from people."



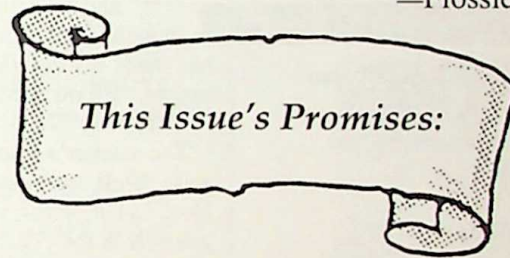
light go on, thus she mimicked the teacher's facial expression to a "T," but the light failed to go on. How hard for Flossie to stand by and watch the frustration of her precious daughter. The teacher let Christy feel the throat vibrations as she said "AH," but to no avail. Returning home without specialized help was no encouragement either. Since, there was no voice light at home, the Epleys tried using candies, M & M's, to encourage her. Every time Christy made an audible sound, a brightly colored candy was rewarded her. After months of trying, the light went on in Christy mind, "Mm-Mm-MmMm," and, my word, she was rewarded a hand full of luscious candies.

This was only the beginning, however, for there was lip-reading and sign language to learn. Time and patience were necessary to communicate, for one cannot "call out" to the hearing impaired. A tap on the shoulder, a face-to-face look, while empty handed, only began the communication process! Another need, like knowing someone was at the door, was solved by having a special light rigged up to flash when the doorbell rang. The TDD (telephone device for the deaf) installation enabled Christy to communicate with her tutor, who was also hearing impaired.

In addition to all this, was the reality of probably not being able to return to Japan. Knowing that Christy would need special teachers for her entire education, Flossie and Russell were willing for God's plan, but after only one term, how

Your children may not be deaf, but you have other challenges. Whatever your circumstances are today, I encourage you to read this promise inserting your child's name in the brackets. Read it again with each child's name, your husband's and your own.

—Flossie Eply



"For I know the plans I have for (you)," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper (you) and not to harm (you), plans to give (you) hope and a future."

Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)

could they think of not returning to the land of their CALL? Was God able for such a situation? As the Epleys brought their darling daughter and the problem they faced to the Saviour, He had the time and the TOUCH to make things happen! And so He DID! God worked marvelously in supplying Christy's first teacher, Annie Jones, who accompanied them to Japan for a two year commitment! Presently, special teacher, Donna Dane, who like Christy is hearing impaired, is beautifully meeting Christy's educational needs.

The Epleys are shining examples of God's grace and help! And I might add, their desire is to be of help and encouragement to any family or person needing comfort, help and/or suggestions. They have found there are solutions! There is help! God is there and He gives what's needed!

Hellen Keller once said, "Blindness separates one from things, but deafness separates one from people." Flossie is so thankful that Christy, now in the second grade, has an outgoing personality!

Flossie also knows, however, there are going to be hard times ahead! But, for now, the Epleys are working hard on all that's involved in raising Christy well. They need special strength, wisdom and encouragement. What a brave family! Flossie's words, "This is not a tragedy!" reminds me just how far the Lord has brought them! I see the loving Saviour's TOUCH evidenced by their love, endurance, patience, strength and His bestowment to Christy of a beautiful, gentle, loving way. "And He put His hands on them, and blessed them." Thank you, Jesus, for being to Christy, younger brother Joel, Flossie and Russell all they have needed!



God Is At Work In Japan!

Meet... Living Stones



Rev. & Mrs. Kiyoshi Sasakiyama
and family

Pastor of Hamamatsu Jesus
Gospel Church

*This is one family's story of
courage. I have attempted to
translate it as simply as possible in
order to let it speak for itself.*

Katie Sisco
(Living Stones' editor)

Ever since our eldest daughter started school we have faced the problem of traditional Japanese celebrations. These are said to stimulate love of country and customs and are seen as "patriotic." Let me name a few: *Koinobori, Tanabata, Mamemaki and Hinamatsuri*. All are associated with idolatry.

The festival celebrations are party-like and the school views these as fun for everyone. But in the *Tanabata* party, for example, the central event is the writing of "wishes" on slips of paper which are fastened to bamboo poles. I think everyone understands these to be like prayers to the gods.

If we are willing to compromise, even Christians could look at this as just fun. But if Jesus is Lord, we must put Him first and our love for Him must show itself in a clear stand against idolatry. That is our personal stand, but we knew our children had to choose for themselves. We asked our daughter, who as eldest faced this issue first, "Do you want to participate in the *Tanabata* festival or not?"

She told us, "No." When we asked for her reason, her response was immediate,

"Because it is idol worship." We told her, "If this is how you feel, then you tell the teacher you don't want to participate and ask to be excused." She

thought it over carefully. When she had made her decision, she came to me saying, "I'll do it. Mother, but you PRAY, okay?"

The teacher's response to her request was, "Well, we grant freedom of religion, so I'll permit you to stay by yourself in the classroom." Similar episodes occurred two or three times a year. Each time our children had to choose. Each time we made it through with prayer and steadfastness.

One occasion will always remain in my heart. Our second child, a son, was in third grade and it was time for the yearly school program. He came home very concerned. "Mother, our class is supposed to do the *oni-odori* (devil dance) and I'm supposed to wear the *oni* mask. I don't want to do it."

"Son. I'll pray for you. You tell the teacher exactly how you feel." This time the teacher's reply was, "All right. I guess you don't have to do the dance, but you will still have to be on the stage with the rest of the class."

On the day of the program we wondered how it was going to work out. Hundreds of parents were there. Our son's class filed on stage and the *oni-odori* began. In the middle of all the dancing children one small boy stood—alone—at attention. That picture of his brave witness as a Christian will never leave me.

The second number his class performed was an ordinary piece in which he could take part, and he did wholeheartedly. But his testimony for Jesus that day made a deep impression in our hearts. If a little child can show such courage in order not to do something that would displease the Lord Jesus, how much more should we as adults love the

Lord and follow Him more closely?

My story is not finished. When our eldest was finishing fifth grade, the teacher came for the home visit. "You know, until now, every time we've had a festival at school your daughter has had to sit out, but the school has been thinking about this. They've decided that

A story of courage
One small boy stood
—alone—at attention

from now on they will not sponsor any event in which all the children cannot participate freely." From then on there were no more events related to idolatry.

How we rejoiced as a family as we saw the outcome of this spiritual battle. The Lord Jesus had worked and changed teachers' hearts. He had done more than we had even asked! To some our children's battle may seem small. But I think that in Jesus' eyes, when His children stand bravely among their peers in order not to compromise, it is a precious thing.

I cannot end my story without talking about the delicate balance involved. While we must fight what we must fight, we must also respect authority and care for our human relationships. So we train our children to respect their teachers. We pray daily with them and for them that their relationships with their teachers, as well as with their peers, will always bring glory to the Lord Jesus.

Mrs. Hitoko Sakakiyama



**Billy Graham
Mission 94**
Tokyo Dome 1.13-16.1994

The Creator God is Again Calling Out to Japan

The Tokyo Dome and the Nishinomiya Koshien Stadium will become Holy Grounds!

All Japan Revival Koshien Mission is gathering momentum for major meetings at the Koshien Stadium, November 5,6,7. Since the stadium seats 60,000, these could be the biggest Christian meetings in Japan's history.

Then two months later Mission 94, Billy Graham Crusade takes place at the Tokyo Dome. What a time to serve Jesus in Japan!

Here is an important list for you to move into high gear.

1. Get on the mailing list. Mission 94 has an English language committee sending out materials. Make sure you are on that list. But the Japanese office is regularly sending out valuable tools for pastors and church people. If you are not getting the Japanese material, sign up right away by calling 03-3292-3001.

2. Register your church or small group. By this you will be able to receive the training materials, entrance tickets and will receive the referrals of any from your group or area who make decisions.

3. Become a prayer mover. Promote the crusade in your prayer letters. Make sure that your prayer groups intercede for coming ministry. As you pray, remember that the crusade will be viewed throughout Asia. JEMA will be organizing prayer groups in the fall, so plan to attend.

4. Double your contacts. Make plans to bring these non-Christians to the evangelistic meetings. You can also encourage other Christians to be part of their own Operation Andrew.

5. Be a donor. Mission 94 has a \$3,500,000 (US) budget to cover the expenses in Japan. All of this money will come from within Japan. We as individuals and missions need to do our share to help.

6. Participate. The actual crusade is preceded by many important events. Missionaries should be an active part of these activities.

Participation stretches from Okinawa to Hokkaido. Coming to Tokyo is one way. However, there will be approximately 100 different satellite broadcast locations throughout Japan. So get involved where ever you are. (See page 26 for schedule details.)

**Intercession Seminar Draws Large Crowd
All Japan Koshien Revival Mission**

A seminar on intercession and spiritual warfare drew 1,300 participants in Nishinomiya on April 29-30. The event was sponsored by All Japan Koshien Revival Mission. Featured speakers were Dr. & Mrs. Peter Wagner (Fuller Seminary) and Cindy Jacobs (Generals of Intercession).

At one session, a Japanese leader representing the evangelical wing of the church and another representing the Pentecostal/charismatic segment came together on stage to publicly confess and seek reconciliation for the suspicion and rift that has often divided the two camps.

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Idioms to Stretch By

How Idiomatic is Your Japanese?
Test yourself by choosing the correct answer in the following problems from past Jitsuyoo Nihongo Kentei Shiken papers. The expressions all use words connected with the body.

- A. 間髪を入れずに言う。
1. ていねいに 3. すぐに
2. 必死に
- B. 息をのんでみる。
1. 息切れして 2. 生き返って
3. 呼吸をとめて
4. 空気をたくさん吸って
- C. 耳にたこができる。
1. 耳の病気になる
2. 静かに聞く
3. 何回も聞く
4. 聞かないふりをする
- D. 仕事に身が()。
1. 立たない 3. 粉になる
2. 覚えがない 4. 入らない

Answers

- A. (4) Literally, "to speak without even leaving the space between 2 hairs."
B. (3) "to hold (catch) one's breath" (in wonder, admiration, fear or surprise).
C. (3) "to get sick and tired of hearing something." Often used with 「ほど」, e.g. 耳にたこができるほど
D. (4) "To take no interest in, be half hearted about."

The wrong answers in #4 are derived from expression which are also worth knowing.

1. 身を立てる。To rise (establish oneself, get on in the world.)
2. 身に覚えがない。To have no experience of, be innocent of.
3. 身を粉にして働く。To work like a horse, work one's fingers to the bone (literally to work so hard that one's body is reduced to powder).

Sermon Illustration For The Busy Missionary Kirisuto e no Kenshin Christian Commitment

"Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood." (Hebrews 12:1,4 NIV)

Ms. Kinue Hitomi (人見絹枝) at Amsterdam

When the Ninth Olympic Games took place in Amsterdam, Holland, all of Japan was pinning their hopes on Kinue Hitomi who held the world record for the 100 meter dash to win, but she failed miserably. She wept long, saying that she couldn't return to Japan like this. When she stopped crying, she announced that she was going to run the 800 meter race.

Everyone was shocked, for her specialty was in the dashes, and she had never run the 800 before. Everyone tried to discourage her saying, "It's impossible. You can't do it." But she insisted that she couldn't return to Japan like this. She finished second in the race. At the finish line she collapsed in exhaustion, and the other runners tripped and fell. She was spiked in the knee, and began to bleed. Two years later she died.

Helpful Vocabulary

- きたい 期待をかける to pin one's hopes on
せかい きろく 世界記録 world record
ざんばい 惨敗する to fail dismally, suffer a crushing defeat
なみだ ぬぐ 涙を拭う to wipe away tears, stop crying
たんきより 短距離 short distance
でき 出来っこない (colloquial) stronger than できない
しゅちよう 主張する to insist
せいこんつき 精魂尽きはてる to be exhausted
ひざ 膝をスパイクで蹴られた was spiked in the knee

What do you think about Revival in Japan?

This is what the Christian Shinbun readers think (11/4/93).

Do you have a concern for revival?

- 1. A great deal 85 %
- 2. To a certain extent 9.8%

What is your image of revival?

- 1. Rapid growth of # of Christians. 43.3%
- 2. Repentance, new Christian workers, Church united. 19.2%
- 3. Healings, signs and wonders leading many to Christ. 17%
- 4. People returning to their former faith. 9.4%

What % of the population would have to become Christian for it to be a revival?

- 10% — 29.5% 30% — 18.3%
- 20% — 13.8% 40% — 4.9%
- More than 50% — 7.1%
- Should not use %. 16.5 %

For what area should we seek revival?

- 1. The world as well as in Japan. 36.6%
- 2. One's own personal life. 27.2%
- 3. Japan above all else. 20.5%
- 4. Begining in our own church. 8.5 %

What aspects of individual and church life should be revived?

- 1. Devotional life. 44.2%
- 2. Christian testimony at home and work. 17.0%
- 3. Revival meetings. 12.5%
- 4. Revitalized worship services. 8.0%

What can we do to bring revival?

- 1. Build bigger buildings. 22.8%
- 2. Use homes for fellowship and evangelistic meetings. 46.0%
- 3. Dedicate ourselves to become pastors or evangelists. 18.8%

What do you think is the single largest obstacle to revival?

The following were listed by the editors:
1. The way Christians hold their faith. 25%

Other answers included: The structure of the society and Japan's national consciousness, Our surroundings, Idolatry, Multiplication of denominations and lack of unity, Satan and the work of evil spirits, The way pastors work, Other religions, Lack of true repentance, Lack of knowledge of the spiritual world, Self-centredness, Theology.

PROTECTION OF PERSONAL RELIGIOUS RIGHTS REJECTED 4/4/93

An appeal to the Osaka High Court that the official visit of the then Prime Minister, Mr. Nakasone to the Yasukuni Shrine on August 15, 1985 violated the constitutional separation of state and religion was summarily rejected on March 18. The case involved the claim by a number of groups including Christians that Mr. Nakasone's visit infringed on their religious freedom and their personal religious rights. Presiding judge, Mr. Goto, rejected the claim and also evaded the issue of deciding what the constitution says. It took Judge Goto just one minute to read his verdict and to leave the court. The plaintiffs were so amazed that they did not even protest. The reasons given for the judgement were:

1. A formal visit to the Yasukuni Shrine does not directly interfere with the plaintiff's religious beliefs and so does not

come under the Constitution's guarantee of religious freedom.

2. The court refused to recognize the plaintiff's claim that the country was giving a meaning to the dead enshrined in Yasukuni Shrine which was a wrong meaning and that under the freedom of individual religious rights the plaintiffs had a constitutional right to protest.

3. The object of the law separating religion and state guarantees that separation and was not designed for a private person's legal benefit. Therefore, an official visit to the Yasukuni Shrine does not break the law. Rev. K. Watanabe, a Kyodan minister, said after the verdict, "If State Shinto is resurrected the situation that existed during World War II in which Korean Christians were martyred for refusal to worship at Shinto Shrines may occur again."

CHANGING ROLE FOR BIBLE SCHOOLS AND SEMINARIES?? 1/24/93

A survey of the students attending three theological schools in the Tokyo area over the past ten years shows that the numbers have not changed much. However, whereas ten years ago women accounted for about one quarter of the students they now number about one half. Amongst laypeople there is a rising demand for training which has moved from a desire for personal development to a desire to be equipped to serve the Church more effectively.

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 - 4. Workbook for "I Learn to Read.. ¥1000
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 - 8. Jesus-26 Lessons/Complete ¥1000
 - 9. 12 Week Course - 26 pages ¥200
 - 10. All About the Church-70 p, ¥1000
 - 11. 50 Lessons in Luke-52pp. ¥600
 - 12. Guide to Christ, the Church and the Christian Life. 160 p. ¥1500
 - 13. Christan Doctrine Workbook ¥750
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KANSAI NEWS

compiled by Nancy Sorley

The Door to Japan—Prayer

JEMA Kansai Meets

A meeting was held March 16, to discuss future officers and meetings. Besides the nine missionaries from Kansai, JEMA President, Barry Potter, attended. He talked about the various JEMA programs in Tokyo, Kyushu and Sendai. It was recommended that JEMA establish an official JEMA committee in Kansai. The present officers, Reimer Clausen (North American Baptist), Lawrence Nicholas (Youth With A Mission) and Ole Moyholm (Norwegian Missionary Society), agreed to continue to serve on the committee.

Kansai Ladies Like to Eat In Osaka

The Osaka Ladies Luncheon at the Royal Hotel on March 2 had 800 ladies attend. The special guest soloist was Christian artist Sayuri Kume, formerly known in the secular music world as Saki Kubota. The speaker was Hiroshi Sakakibara. The fall luncheon is

planned for October 6.

The Osaka International Church sponsors at International ladies luncheon on the fourth Friday of each month at the Miyako Hotel. From 10:30 to 11:30 there is a bilingual program followed by a buffet in the Top of Miyako Restaurant. No reservations are necessary.

In Kyoto

Three hundred ladies attended the Kyoto Ladies Luncheon on March 15. Kenichi Nakagawa from Harvest Time was the speaker. Special music was provided by blind soloist Hideko Domen. October 4 is the date for their next luncheon.

Praise and Prayer

All Japan Revival Koshien Mission sponsored "Seven Hours of Praise and Prayer" in Kyoto, Ikoma and Itami cities. These are to prepare people's hearts for the rallies in Koshien Stadium on November 5, 6 and 7, 1993.

JEMA Women on the Move

At their last meeting the JEMA executive committee launched a women's committee called "Women in Ministry." JEMA executive members' wives and others who had expressed an interest in the special needs of women to improve their effectiveness in ministry met for their first working breakfast on April 16.

Areas covered included loneliness, balancing ministry and family needs, singleness, medical care, sexuality, marriage, disappointment, discouragement and prayer. The women

expressed deep concern for those in ministry, and agreed to seek practical ways to encourage and support each other. Several mentioned that in their earlier days in Japan a friend had said just the right words to encourage them.

A follow-up meeting was held on June 4th for Mission women leaders. Approximately 25 people shared in the discussion.

In an effort to be that encouraging friend the committee is planning sponsored its first Women's Concerns Seminar in October. All women are invited. Watch for further details.

Concerts of Prayer

David Bryant of Concerts of Prayer, International, quoting J. Edwin Orr, said, "When God begins to do something new in His people, He always sets them first to prayer." This is the year for concerted prayer for Japan.

God has used David Bryant throughout the U.S. to lead people of various denominations and backgrounds in 'concerted' prayer. In recent years he has travelled in many different countries sharing this unique experience in untied prayer for renewal and evangelism.

All together over three hundred pastors and leaders attended the five one-day seminars in Kanto and Kansai on how to lead a Concert of Prayer. In the evenings a total of five hundred people gathered for actual Concerts of Prayer.

It was the purpose of the seminars and the Concerts of Prayer to encourage Japanese pastors, missionaries and church leaders in continuing a movement of prayer throughout Japan. One pastor had this commentary on the spiritual tone of the seminars, "This was not a seminar; it was a spiritual life conference!" Another Japanese leader observed, "The Concerts of Prayer lasted two hours, and yet we never lost interest or became bored in any way." David himself made this comment about his time in Japan, "I see that one of my greatest contributions continues to be how God sets me in the midst of various movements, in order to help set those movements themselves into the context of what God is doing, so that they are able to find God's vision, to find each other, and to find a way to move forward together. The prayer movement in Japan has already begun!"

Reported by Ron Sisco of OC International

Evangelism Praying

Evelyn Christenson brought a two-day prayer seminar to Tokyo Baptist Church, May 27, 28. Using the guide book Evangelism Praying ladies were challenged again to pray like never before for this nation to be won to Christ.

A Time to Pray

All are encouraged to join the Mission 94 Billy Graham Crusade Prayer Times held every second Friday at Ochanomizu Christian Center, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

In the Fall JEMA will also be organizing prayer meetings for Mission 94. Please plan to participate, and contact the JEMA office concerning details.

A Big Word of Thanks

Tim Selander and his family leave this summer for their home assignment. His ministry at will be greatly missed at P.B.A. The JEMA family thank him for his outstanding ministry on our behalf. The missionary computerites have gained much by his expertise. The JEMA office and its publications ministry have been carried by his help. For me personally I can think of no higher praise than to say that Tim is a servant, an outstanding one. Hurry back.

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Briefly Noted

C&MA Centennial

Dr. Albert B. Simpson, after assessing the spiritual need of Japan, in 1893 officially opened the Christian & Missionary Alliance missionary effort here. Centennial celebrations will take place in Hiroshima City, August 18-20.

25 Years of Priming Missionaries

In July JMLI celebrates 25 years of Japanese language training for missionaries

Hekman Will Stay

Christian Academy in Japan (CAJ) was relieved to hear that Dr. Bruce Hekman will be able to continue as the school headmaster for the 1993-94 school year.

Japan to Russia

New Life League continues to ship life-giving literature to Eastern Europe. This spring they have prepared 1,250,000 Russian evangelistic booklets and 140,000 New Testaments.

From The Mail Box

From a long-time JEMA Friend.

After sharing about several battles with heart attacks last year, and being in the hospital several more times during the winter, she shares this:

On April 15 I was 83 years old and have been a missionary for over 53 years. The Lord called me to be a missionary for life. I praise Him for supplying my needs.

Susie Thomas

Words of Thanks.

A note of appreciation for the excellent Spring issue. Every section was valuable and all the contributors deserve thanks for a job well done.

I was especially encouraged in reading Lessons from the Leaders and hope that more of this type of article will continue to be published.

Kay Shade

Church Growth

Reaching The Heart

The last JEMA sponsored seminar, entitled "Reaching the Japanese Heart for Christ" brought over 50 people out to hear Dr. Uchida and Rev. Tahara speak. The next seminar will be held on October 4.

Cell Groups

In July, the Japan Church Growth Institute will host Dr. Ralph W. Neighbour, Jr., for a series of cell group seminars in Okinawa (July 1-3), Tokyo (July 6-8), and Sapporo (July 12-13). Dr. Neighbour is a world-renown authority on cell group churches. For information call JCGI at 0424-93-4469.

Focus on the Family

Jim Daly, representative of Focus on the Family, was able to sandwich a fact-finding trip to Japan between work in Africa and Australia. Between May 10 and 12, missionary Tim Cole helped Jim meet with a number of interested people, both national and missionary. Two years ago Focus on the Family made a decision to become involved in the international arena after receiving requests from South Africa, Zimbabwe, Latin America, Mexico, Australia, as well as Canada and England. Jim said that he finds a growing concern for family issue all over the world.

Eleven years ago, Jim spent a year at Waseda as a student in the International Division, so he holds a very personal interest in Japan. He shared that Dr. Dobson is hoping soon to air a program specifically about Japan and the Japanese family. Japan has a high profile in the U.S. right now. Dobson believes that many of the stresses on the family are similar in both countries, but there are also fascinating dissimilarities. He desires to see bridge-building for mutual edification of Christians in both countries.



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The Evangelism Box

"Effective church planters are determined to win the lost, no matter what the cost. They are compulsive about personally modelling the life of one who lives in fields ripe unto harvest, not just dining at the Master's table endlessly."

Ralph W. Neighbour, *Church Planter's Link*, Vol. 3 No. 4

At the JEMA Pioneer Evangelism Seminar (May 17)

From Andrew Tahara's lecture,

"Preaching the Gospel to Japanese"

Be Practical. Know the people you are trying to reach. Try to stay within the limits of your listeners' experience.

Be Personal. People are interested in YOU as an individual before they recognize you as a preacher. You and your family are part of the sermon. Use life stories from the Bible.

Be Positive. Japanese like to hear something that brightens their hearts.

Be Passionate. "If someone asks me what the most important element of a preacher is for winning souls for Christ, my answer will be, 'Enthusiasm!'" Spurgeon. You can be soft, moderate, reserved and still be zealous and enthusiastic.

Be Prayerful. Saturate your message with prayer.

The next Japan Harvest will include the treasures from Kazuhiko Uchida's lecture, "The Process of a Japanese Coming to Christ."

Billy Graham Mission 94 Schedule

July 1-5 Franklin Graham
Youth Rallies.

July 3 Missionary Breakfast
with Franklin Graham
Tokyo American Club
RSVP to JEMA office.

Sept. Christian Life and
Witness Course/Follow-up

Oct. 21-23 Anne Graham Lotz
Women's Rallies.

Nov. Choir practices by districts.

Dec. Counselor & follow-up
training.

At The Dome

Jan. 12 Dedication Service 7pm

The Crusade

Jan 13 (Thurs) 7pm

Jan 14 (Fri) 7pm

Jan 15 (Sat) 4pm

Jan 16 (Sun) 4pm



Dr. Dieter Kemmler

The Highlight of the Summer *Don't Miss It!* JEMA Summer Conference in Karuizawa

August 5—8, Union Church

Be sure to make JEMA's annual conference a part of your summer — world class speakers, music, and fantastic fellowship.



Roy & Dorothy Morden

Highlights & Spotlights

Inspiration versus Perspiration—The Sermon on the Mount

Lectures by Dr. Kemmler, Professor of New Testament, Aarau Seminary, Switzerland. Outstanding teacher and conference speaker.

The Morden Ministry Team leading the music.

Special seminars with people like Dr. Stephen Franklin, Professor at Tokyo Christian University.

The Famous Ladies' Tea, The Picnic.

Great programs for youth, children.

Baby sitting for the "Under Fives."

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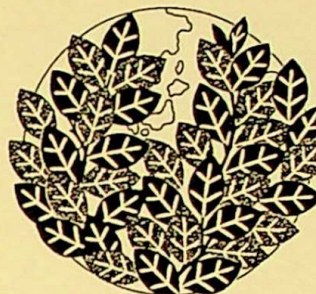
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• **Offering reusable containers and refills to save resources and reduce waste**

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Natural Life Care

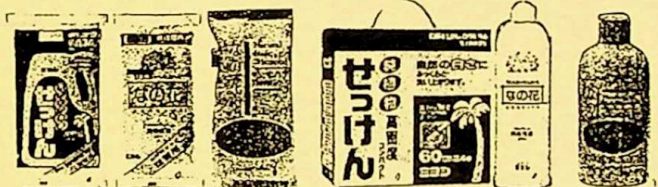


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in from this time forth, and even for evermore" Ps.121



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