



JAPAN HARVEST

Pressing

Om...

inside

***From Terrorist to Missionary**

***Prayer Summit Reflections**

***Japan Cell Church Mission**

"CHRIST IS ALL" (Colossians 3:11)

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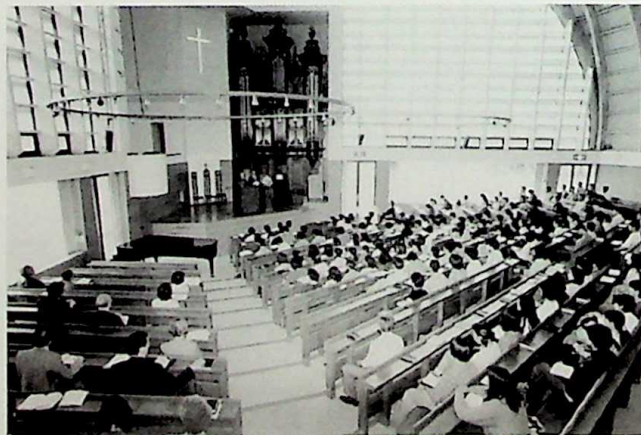
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JAPAN HARVEST

Volume 50. No. 2 / Fall 1998

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Cover Photo: Mount Fuji in Winter

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

Japan Harvest Staff: Managing Editor, Gerald May
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Printer: New Life League (*Shinsei Senkyodan*)

JEMA Executive Committee, 1998-1999:
President, Gerald May; Secretary, Paul Pike; Treasurer, Diana Reuter;
Members-At-Large, Aashild Furukawa, Randy Hicks, Walter Siegrist.

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Price Overseas is \$25 per year.
Price in Japan is ¥2,500 per year, single copy is ¥750
Postal Transfer: Japan Harvest, Tokyo 00130-4-180466

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In This Harvest...

The first time to try anything can be a little unnerving. So it has been for me in this my first attempt at editing the Harvest. Everything was new. A new computer, new software, novice me. Though I had worked as the editor of my college's newspaper this has been degrees beyond anything we attempted back in the days of cut and paste.



But, like the theme of this issue, the idea of pressing on was always in my mind. Moving the Harvest production into the JEMA office has meant having to rebuild the whole publication from scratch. It seemed there were glitches everywhere—probably mostly between my ears, but we won't go into that—meaning that what I thought would be a few minutes work turned into hours. Aside from taking a hammer to the computer my only alternative was to press on and seek to find the solution to the situation that presented itself to me.

This issue gives several perspectives on the idea of **Pressing On**. Two stories deal with overcoming very difficult backgrounds to be used in significant ways in the Lord's service. You'll also find ways we might better meet the challenge of ministry: through our own spiritual growth, our prayer life, making use of other ministry opportunities, or approaching our problem from a slightly different angle.

I trust you will find these few pages encouraging. I hope, too, that you will be challenged anew to continue pressing on toward the goal set before you.

GERALD

MAY

-EDITOR-



JEMA Windows

Gerald May, JEMA President

I have recently realized afresh that I don't really have a handle on the "big picture." Can someone tell me what is going on in Japan? This country is in tremendous turmoil socially, economically, politically, spiritually, and even physically with the storms, floods and tremors of the past few weeks. Is it all just coincidence? Or is there an underlying purpose to the upheaval?

I don't think that Japan is being singled out for special punishment, for the Japanese are no different than the rest of the world in their spiritual darkness. Perhaps, however, we are seeing God at work to soften hard hearts. He is getting

people's attention. As with my own stubborn heart, God may need to occasionally shock people into grasping the insufficiency of their once-vaunted resources. With the worldly trappings stripped away people may see their own need for God more clearly.

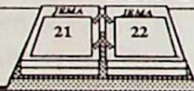
As one of those called out to proclaim the Gospel of Christ to this land I dare not miss the significance of these turbulent times. Our neighbours are asking questions. Am I *fully* prepared to give witness to the hope that is within me? For if any time were "in season" this surely is it!

The church in Japan, too, is facing some significant challenges. Attendance and giving are down. Pastoral leadership is aging quickly, and there do not seem to be enough young people coming up through the schools to meet the increasing need. The church is facing a shake-up. How can we, as sisters and brothers, respond?

Dare I suggest that we look at this as our own wake-up call? Can God be trying to get our attention as well? Perhaps it is time to look our ministries straight in their presuppositions and ask some hard questions: Just what is it that I have been trying to accomplish? Are my methods Biblically sound? Is my approach to ministry suffering from a hardening of the categories?

I don't want to belabour the point too much, but with a new millennium soon to be upon us, it behooves us to look to the possibilities the rather significant number change opens up to us. People are anticipating what is coming. They are hoping for change. Wouldn't it be exciting to see a moving of the Holy Spirit to bring about nationwide repentance? Can we prayerfully seek to continue to shake this nation as God has already begun to do? With God's people working together it is an exciting possibility.

JEMA



Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Place
October 20 - 23, 1998	Church Planters' Institute	Megumi Chalet, Karuizawa
November 2, 1998	Jill Briscoe Seminar	Tokyo Baptist Church, Shibuya
November 4 - 5, 1998	Jill Briscoe Retreat	Kobe Lutheran Bible Institute
November 6 - 7, 1998	Jill Briscoe Retreat	Koinonia Kirsuto Kyokai
January 19-22, 1999	Tokyo Men's Prayer Summit	Okutama Bible Chalet
February 21-23, 1999	Mission Leaders' Consultation	Fukui no Ie, Okutama
February 23, 1999	JEMA Plenary	Ochanomizu Christian Center

SUMMER JUBILATION

In the Year of Jubilee God calls His people to step back. First, it is to be a year of rest for the land, they are to step back from the toil of cultivation and depend upon what the Lord has provided. Second, they are to take a step back in time, so to speak, and return to the land of their fathers. No land was ever to pass permanently into another person's hand in Israel's Old Testament economy.

Mr. Reuven Doron, of Embrace Israel Ministries, presented a dynamic perspective on Israel's return to the land of its fathers. Add to that the energetic worship team of Ken and Marilyn Overman and Mrs. Beth Kanda, and we had the makings for an uplifting and challenging four days at **JEMA's Summer Conference**.

From July 30 to August 2 over 100 missionaries and friends gathered in the Karuizawa Union Church to hear Reuven share from his firsthand experiences. As a young man Reuven fought in the Yom Kippur War of 1973. And since then has shared in other ways in Israel's struggle to reestablish a place in the land promised to Abraham.

As interesting as the stories were, however, he focused primarily on the challenge to consider the Biblical implications of what is no less than a national miracle. The Church and Israel both hold a place in God's divine economy. Is the Church prepared to partner with the growing Messianic fellowships in Israel in seeing God's purposes fulfilled in that nation as well as the rest of the world? Indeed, vital points to consider.

The Overmans and Beth Kanda encouraged a true sense of worship with a mix of traditional hymns and more upbeat Jewish-style praise songs. Their violin, guitar and piano accompaniment made for a bright, uplifting sense of praising God from the heart.

In addition to the larger sessions, several work-

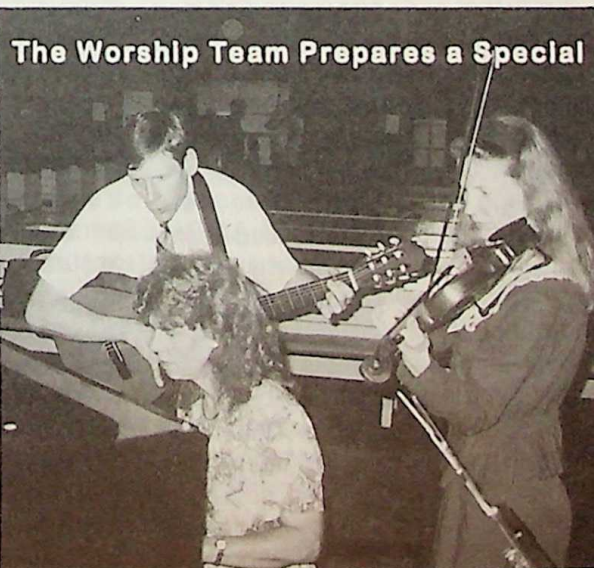
shops were held. In a presentation on "Finding Your Divine Design," John Mehn focused on helping missionaries better evaluate their own temperament, leadership style and spiritual gifting and how that understanding might help in determining an effective ministry "fit."

Paul Nethercott entered in on discussion for the need for the release of forgiveness in our lives. Our emotional and spiritual health depends on our giving up our "right" for revenge to the Lord.

Mr. Eisuke Kanda shared his work with International Food the Hungry, sharing how God moved in several miraculous ways to direct him into his present ministry. And on Friday afternoon joined his wife Beth in speaking to the Ladies Tea. Their very open testimony of how God brought them together and directed them in their work left a lasting impression on many.

The children's program hosted about 30 children in morning sessions that focused on the story of Noah and God's judgement and blessing. The weather proved to be a blessing, too, as the children were able to enjoy the outdoors each day of the conference.

The 1999 JEMA Summer Conference is scheduled for July 29 to August 1, at the Karuizawa Union Church. Dr. Haddon Robinson from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary will be our speaker. Be watching for details in upcoming issues.



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From Terrorist to Missionary

-Hugh Brown

On May 8, 1998 it was twenty years to the day since God, in His mercy, saved me. I was serving a six-year prison sentence in Her Majesty's Prison in Maze, N. Ireland for terrorist crimes.

Many people around the world, including many Japanese, completely misunderstand the conflict in Northern Ireland. They think of it as people fighting over religious differences, when it has very little to do with religion at all.

As a commanding officer in a terrorist organization, I met hundreds of members of similar groups in N. Ireland. I know of many more, probably over a thousand, but I have never met, or even heard of one who has any faith in God. None would consider themselves to be religious in any way. On the contrary, they would mock anyone who mentioned God's name in any way other than in blasphemy.

I, as a member of a terrorist organization, was one of them. I had no faith in God. I never attended church. I certainly did not consider myself to be a Christian. I was godless, living a very godless life. I was certainly not fighting for any religion. I was simply fighting those who we considered to be enemies of our community and country. They were terrorists using guns and bombs, so it seemed to me and my friends that the only way to fight back was using the same means. I was involved for about three years until I was arrested and sentenced to six years as a political prisoner.

However, there was one thing which did make me different than most of my friends. I had been brought up in a Christian home. Both my parents became Christians when I was about seven years old while living in Belfast city. For some time my family, all eight of us, went to church at least three times every Sunday. This continued

only until I was about twelve. We lived in a ghetto, and none of my friends were Christians, nor did they go to church. So, I rebelled against attending church, and after a while my parents gave up trying to make me go.

My twin brother and I began running the streets with a gang, and in a very short time nobody would ever have guessed our Christian background. Our reputation as the "terrible twins"



was such that when one of the most militant, outlawed terrorist organizations in N. Ireland decided to form a junior branch in our area we were the first ones they approached and recruited, at the age of fifteen.

From that early age we participated in all kinds of terrorist activity. In N. Ireland that can be divided into three categories: shootings, bombings, and robberies aimed at getting funds for the organization.

During those years there were several occasions when I faced death, and when I escaped with my life--on at least one occasion quite miraculously--I just thought I was luckier than many others who, in the same circumstances, lost their lives. Later, after becoming a Christian I realized that I had not just been lucky. Rather, my life had been spared in answer to the prayers of my parents and others in the church whom my

mother had asked to pray for her boys.

We never told our parents we were involved in our organization, (we never told anyone--the organization was illegal, and membership alone carried a 5 - 6 year prison sentence). But, they certainly found out one night when ten armed terrorists from another organization burst into our home, took my brother and me out, and, after torturing us for several hours, shot us in the knees and dumped us in the street.

It was not until I had been in prison for 2 1/2 years that I became a Christian after watching the movie "Ben-Hur" on a prison television. It was totally unexpected, as I had no idea what the movie was about. As I watched the scene of the crucifixion of Christ, and heard the words of 1 Peter 2:24, "He took the sins of the whole world upon His own body on the cross," something very wonderful happened. The whole thing became very real to me, and I saw very clearly that my sin had crucified the Son of God.

I had heard that truth many times as a child, but it meant little or nothing to me. But, that I saw it so clearly, that I felt I never wanted to have anything to do with sin again. Sin, as it had been revealed to me at that moment, was living without God, going my own way. So, I decided "from now on I am going follow Christ."

As soon as I could, I spoke to another prisoner who had already become a Christian and he led me in a simple prayer to accept Christ as my personal Savior. At first I had no assurance that God had heard my prayer, but as I read the Bible and prayed daily I understood more about what it meant to be a Christian.

Within two weeks God had given me full assurance of faith, and I knew that all my sins were forgiven. It came as I was reading Galatians chapter 2:20, "I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless I live, yet not I but Christ

lives in me..." The rest of my time in prison became a time of getting to know God, and by the time of my release my life had been completely transformed.

Soon after coming out of prison I began to pray that God would reveal His plan for my life. God led me to surrender my life completely, and then He very clearly answered my prayer. On March 16, 1980, I was sound asleep in my bed when I suddenly awoke at exactly 3:00 am. It was so unusual that I felt I should get out of bed to pray. As I got out of bed I became clearly conscious that God had woken

"I have set before you an open door which no man can shut."

me in order to speak to me. I was overwhelmed by the sense of God's presence, and had no doubt that He had woken me.

I only prayed for a few minutes before turning to my Bible, but, as I read Isaiah 52, I knew that verse 7 was God's word to me that morning: "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good tidings...." I believed that God was calling me to preach the gospel, and God confirmed this several times. I began to pray that God would show me where He wanted me to preach, and again within two weeks I had a firm conviction that it was Japan.

I entered Bible College to prepare for missionary service in Japan and during the four years of study and training He confirmed to me many times that He had, indeed, called me to this country.

As my training ended I applied with my wife, whom I had met in college, for missionary service with the Japan

Evangelistic Band. We were accepted as missionary candidates, but naturally there was much concern about whether I could get a visa as one who had served a prison sentence for terrorism. Humanly speaking this would be impossible, but we applied for visas believing God. After we sent in our visa applications God, on separate occasions, gave my wife Anne and I the same verse, Rev. 3:8, "I have set before you an open door which no man can shut."

In due time our visas were granted and we left for Japan in January 1985. We have been serving here for almost fourteen years now and we thank God for His faithfulness, and for the ministry He has given us. While working in pioneer evangelism with JEB, I have also been serving as a prison chaplain at a Kobe prison for the past five years. God has blessed his word to both prisoners and prison officers, and changed lives have resulted.

We pray that there will be changes in the Japanese prison system to allow more opportunities, such as Bible studies, and prayer meetings in the prisons. Japanese prisons are much more strictly controlled than western prisons, with the work and services of a chaplain being much more restricted. For prisoners my visits are more of a privilege than a right. However, there is no doubt in my mind that God led me into this ministry; so, I can leave all these issues in His hands, knowing that He will take full responsibility.



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THE 3 "J"s: JUDO, JAPON,

By David E. Humble

Harvest Time Ministries Staff

People who were significantly wounded when they were young often grow up not being able to cope with life without resorting to some kind of destructive behavior.

One of Harvest Time's August guests says that not only does touching hurting people's lives early in life make a difference, but that his own wounded heart was radically changed by the people that God led across his path - at just the right time.

Born in southern France, the son of an agricultural college instructor, Pascal Zivi experienced one of the worst emotional traumas that any child could know. At the age of seven, a serious traffic accident took his mother's life, but miraculously spared his own.

Added to his intense emotional suffering were physical after-effects, as well. A hormone imbalance caused him to become extremely overweight. Other children used this as an excuse to make fun of him.

"I got really hardened," he said. "I felt that I had to protect myself from their taunts, so I put on a tough face and an intimidating attitude. I wanted to look strong."

This act continued for quite awhile until one of his classmates, a member of the school Judo Club, introduced him to the judo instructor. This turned out to be one of several key life encounters.

"There have been three 'J's' that have changed my life," Zivi commented. "The first of these was 'Judo.' Somehow, this instructor understood me without me having to say anything to him about my pain. The lessons he taught me about falling and getting back up to fight were precisely the lessons I needed to learn about life.

"At the age of 22 I left everything behind and headed off to 'Japan' for what I believed to be a few months of Judo training. I didn't know that my life was

about to be changed again by the second of my three 'J's.'"

The new life was, indeed, exciting, but there were plenty of new problems to deal with. The most troubling, he revealed, was the discrimination he observed against foreigners living in Japan.

"The first Japanese word I learned was 'gaijin' ('outsider')," he said. "Particularly, the treatment the Koreans, Filipinos and Taiwanese got was shameful. Seeing all this brought back very bad memories from my own childhood and I realized that I was still angry and dissatisfied deep down inside."

Not long afterwards, Zivi had a chance meeting with an American missionary on a train. After an awkward conversation in broken French and

but I was about to encounter the third 'J' in my life-changing journey."

Zivi immediately noticed a difference in relationships at the church. Instead of discrimination, there was a lively and warm international fellowship. Rev. Burton-Lewis, church pastor Morito Inagaki, and all the members, he said, showed him real care over a period of about two years.

"Through pastor Inagaki's messages and by studying the Bible, I finally understood the depths of Jesus' love for me. Believing faith filled my heart. I knew that this last 'J' had finally led me home."

With a growing faith, Zivi was anxious to train to reach others for Christ. He first went to Sapporo to enter seminary, but became discouraged when

"I...headed off to 'Japan' for what believed to be a few months of Judo training. I didn't know that my life was about to be changed..."

English, missionary Harry Burton-Lewis invited Zivi to visit the Tsukuba Gakuen Church the next Sunday.

"I really wasn't interested in going to church," confesses Zivi, "but Rev. Burton-Lewis was so kind and seemed to understand me. So, I went to church once or twice...and then I started going every Sunday. I didn't know it then,

he found the language requirements greatly exceeded his skills. His old friend, Harry Burton-Lewis, contacted him during this time and recommended he find fellowship at the nearby Church of the 12 Apostles.

This turned out to be great advice for two reasons: here Zivi met his future wife, Fumiko, and he also discov-



The Beginning of a Journey

The concern and instruction of a high school Judo teacher changed Pascal Zivi from an angry, hurting boy to a young man with a dream. A passion for Judo—the first of three "J's" in Zivi's life—led him to Japan where he eventually met Jesus as his Savior.

AND JESUS!

ered what would be his future ministry.

"The church had been working with the families of some young people involved in cult groups," he said. "They really didn't know what to do, but with love and faith they tried to minister to those people and God blessed their efforts. I began to join with them in this ministry, and, before I knew it, I realized that this was the work that God

work."

Zivi, who patterns his own counseling after Jesus' technique with the Samaritan woman (John 4:11 ff), said that one of his greatest joys now is working with God to help cult members and their families get free.

In reflecting on his "Journey of 'J's'," Zivi recalled a conversation that he had with a Catholic nun when he was seven.

"...religion seeks to nurture peace and joy in a person's life. The cults, however, rule a person's life through fear There's...a direct Satanic influence at work."

had for me to do."

Now, after 13 years of extensive ministry experience with cult groups and their members, Zivi serves as the director of the "Mind Control Research Center" in Sapporo. One of the Center's most recent projects has been the co-production of a Japanese-language video seminar entitled, "Monday Contrary Karma My o Mummer!" (Protect Yourself From "Mind Control")

"Cult groups," he emphasizes, "are often successful in snagging people who are going through emotional development stages or environmental changes - such as young people who haven't really settled on a career yet." "The cult 'evangelists' prey on peoples' lack of direction in life. Even folks who think, 'I'm OK, I don't need to worry about this,' are often very susceptible to cult tactics."

Zivi said that cult leaders use fear tactics to gain power over people. The indoctrination employs a kind of "un-freeze - reprogram - refreeze" conditioning that gives them control over all aspects of followers' lives.

"The difference between normative religion and destructive cults," he clarifies, "is that religion seeks to nurture peace and joy in a person's life. The cults, however, rule a person's life through fear. There's an unseen power involved - a direct Satanic influence at

"I asked her why she became a nun," Zivi remembered. "She replied that it was because she had met Jesus. I didn't know who Jesus was, so I asked her about Him. She told me this: 'He is a wonderful person. Someday, in someplace that you don't know about, and at a time when you're not even thinking about it, you will meet Him, too. And from that day on, your life will never be the same!'"

"You know," he smiled, "it turned out EXACTLY the way she said!"



Pascal Zivi is director of the "Mind Control Research Center" in Sapporo, Hokkaido, where he lives with his wife Fumiko and their daughter. For more information on MCRC projects and activities,

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1998 JEMA Prayer Summit

From Hiruzen

--Ken Reddington

"It was a life changer, as I have much more peace and love for people here since returning. Today's preaching went well, too. ...Can't wait for the next one."

"I am glad I attended the SUMMIT at Hiruzen (even though we were at the foot of the mountain physically, we were at the top otherwise!). It surely was a well-timed experience for me."

"I am so desirous of praising the Lord! It became infectious at that 'little summit.' I got out some song books that were buried in a corner and have found some wonderful songs."

"God got a hold of me again at this Summit. God had given me Colossians 2:6,7 at the beginning of the year; especially the last words of verse 7 "...and over flowing with gratitude". But I hadn't been doing that. But as we came before the Lord at the Summit in song, the Word, and in prayer, I realized that praise and thanksgiving were the missing ingredients in my spiritual life."

"The Men's Prayer Summit was fantastic! Every missionary should go if at all possible. The group praise and prayer time was so refreshing and renewing, and the personal prayer time was the best I have had in a long time. God really did a work in my heart and I praise Him for that."

"The fellowship with the other men was really great. I would rank this as the single most important event I have attended in Japan."



What was it that brought about these responses? It was the first-ever JEMA-sponsored Prayer Summit for Western Japan. This being a L-O-N-G country, and transportation being costly and time-consuming, the JEMA Prayer Commission thought it was time to split up into two groups, one at Okutama, and one at Hiruzen Bible Camp in Okayama-ken for those of us in the West.

"Wow!" "Our God is an AWESOME God!" is perhaps how you could explain the events of those 4 days with God 'on the mountain.' At first, we were a little apprehensive as there were only nine participants (compared to over 40 last year at Okutama). But when it was over, I think we were all glad there were so few of us. We really got to know each other. There was a deep feeling

He is my King.

That led to Him speaking to us as we laid ourselves at His feet in the 'Bush Times' (time spent going 'into the bush' and allowing God to talk to us personally). I have never had a Summit before where we've had SO much personal time with God. But I know for me, it was just right. I needed to hear what my King had to say.

And He did speak! He began to clear out the cobwebs in our relationships, first with Him, and gradually outward to self, wife, children, family, co-workers, etc. Now we are processing what He told us and are putting 'feet to our words'.

The Lord chose the agenda and lead us, as He saw fit, before the Throne of Grace. Psalm 27:8 says it all. "When You said, 'Seek My face,'



of unity, in spite of our differences. As we focused our attention on our Lord and who He is, we found ourselves being drawn together.

To put our times in His presence into one phrase, I think I'd choose the words "He reigns". God revealed Himself in many ways, but we kept on coming back to the fact that He is King--MY King--and I must not only DO something but BE something because

my heart said to You, 'Your face, Lord, I will seek.'" In a Prayer Summit, we seek His Face (to know more of who He is and to know His Presence more fully). We do not focus on 'seeking His Hand' (asking Him to DO for us). It is only as we center on Him that all else comes into proper perspective.

Won't you consider giving the Lord four days of your time? You won't regret it!

Reflections

REFLECTIONS

From Okutama

--Gary Fujino

“What? You mean you really only just pray?” My initial reaction to mention of the annual JEMA Prayer Summit was somewhat less than spiritual (and grammatical)! But the feeling was real. Missionaries and pastors gathered together for four full days simply to pray? It was hard to fathom. I had never heard of any such thing in America, much less Japan! The curiosity to see what it “really” was drove me as much as the need I felt to develop my prayer life before God. So I went.

You know what? We really did “only just pray”! And we prayed and prayed and prayed. For four straight days. To this day, the effects of this, my first Prayer Summit, and personal renewal in my own spiritual life, have not stopped.

I am a “structure” person. I like running by schedules, knowing things in advance, having something “tangible” to work with. The Prayer Summit had NONE of that, which is what made it so powerful.

Think of a room with thirty Christian workers, all expectant and READY to pray. Observe thirsty souls, “just praying,” for ten minutes, thirty minutes, even two or three hours. Straight. Three or four times a day. Witness the time flying by and hearts being refreshed through impromptu singing, Bible reading, confession of sin, prayer requests and focused, directed intercession for one another. Imagine the Lord’s Supper being CELEBRATED, as it should be. Put a “structure person” like me in all of that. See change and renewal and praise and JOY. Give God the glory.

I have had opportunity to attend a wide number of JEMA-related and mission-sponsored events. There are many important and significant conferences that are held year-round but, in

my opinion, the annual JEMA Prayer Summit is THE “event” that a missionary should attend.

Why? Because prayer is often the most neglected part of our lives and our ministries. We always know that we need to pray but expending our financial resources and settling aside time to be still before the Lord, talking to Him and, more importantly, listening to His voice, makes us “put our money where our mouth is.” It tangibly causes us to prioritize our *schedules* before Him.

The act of praying together with others of the same heart is something that money cannot buy and which no conference can “teach” you. It is making time to consciously be before the Lord on an intensive, concentrated basis. And it can become a life-changing act. It was for me.

Besides praying itself, what blessed me most about the prayer summit was the character of its participants. Every person came expectant, ready to pray. Some had even set aside their calendar a year

in advance so that they could be sure to attend. There was humility, too, a sense of brokenness and a need for God. Missionaries needing God? It was a wonderful example for a first timer like me. I was impressed to see prominent Japanese pastors as well as heads of missions and JEMA officers in attendance. Yet everyone was there because they wanted to be not because they had to be there.

I’m hooked on “just praying.” In my less than three years on the field, this was the most impressive conference that I’ve attended, exactly because it wasn’t “a conference.” It was taking time to “be with” God. Can anything be more important? Pull out your calendars and set aside four full days in January 1999 to “just pray.” I don’t think you’ll regret it.

**We really did
“only just pray”!**

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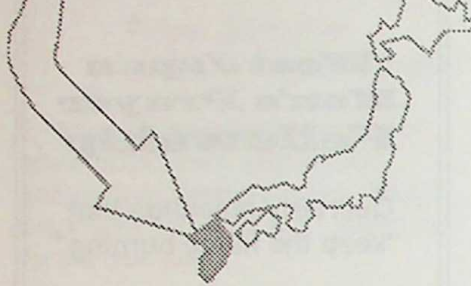
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See details in
this issue's insert



West Japan
Men's Prayer Summit
May 24-27, 1999
Hiruzen Bible Camp

**Save by registering
before April 24**
Details in insert.

LOVE KYUSHU '98 -Steve Clark



LOVE JAPAN 2000 is the special focus of all Campus Crusade for Christ projects from now until the year 2000. It represents an effort to reach out to 60 of Japan's top universities, 25 major cities, as well as do mass evangelism touching every prefecture in the country. LOVE KYUSHU 98 is the name of one LOVE JAPAN 2000 project.

It is said that there are 1770 towns and villages without churches still in Japan. Among these, there are many that have not yet had anyone distribute any form of gospel literature to all the homes. In Kyushu that number is 209 areas still unreached. East Asia CCC is gearing up for a special focus on Japan in the 3 years leading up to 2000. This event is the first step in distributing the gospel to as-yet-unreached areas.

Kyushu has 13 MPTAs (Million People Target Areas) — the areas where approximately 1 million people are living. (These have been identified and numbered by JCCC, mainly along prefecture and regional lines). Kyushu is home to 13,420,578 people. It is the least evangelized of the main islands of Japan, including 2 cities without a church, and 358 towns without churches. The two cities are Kaseta in Kagoshima and Matsuura in Nagasaki.

Our plan has been to recruit and send 'coverage teams' to these MPTAs, working with local churches to give each person in the area an opportunity to say "Yes" to Jesus Christ.

Priority MPTAs are mainly those towns and villages that, first, have no churches, and second, have not been recently covered with evangelistic lit-

erature. Two main targets are Nagasaki Prefecture and Kagoshima Prefecture. Both have a long Catholic history, and a small church to population ratio of about 1 church to every 30,000 people.

Using tested evangelistic tracts, along with offers of the new Jesus video, each home is being approached, taking every opportunity to share the gospel personally. Teams with special talents will help gather groups where local Christians can witness. Local churches do follow up.

A total of about 800 project members are eventually expected from Singapore, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Korea, Japan, Mongolia, Australia, Philippines, Macau, America and other countries. Teams started work in Kyushu on May 31 and will continue on through October, though we hope to receive teams through the end of 1998.

Critical to accomplishing the task have been advance teams from the sending countries who arrive early to make arrangements for their country's main team. Timing of the projects has been according to the summer vacation schedule of the sending countries.

Upon their arrival and through out their time in Japan, every team of about 10 members "prayer walks" their general area, or join with other nearby teams to "prayer walk" a spiritual stronghold area. Teams will focus on prayer each day for their own area, and for Japan.

The gospel tract has testimonies from Hoshino Tomihiro, stories about Xavier and elderly Japanese. There is an informative article explaining the Jesus film and it's worldwide impact. An abbreviated version of the 4 Spiritual Laws is also included.

An offer of a free Jesus video to those who respond by sending in a postcard is included on the back of the tract. Church information for nearby local churches is imprinted, or flyers are stuffed into the tract. These are for distribution to every home in the target areas.

A 90 minute audio cassette drawn from the Jesus film, and redone with special radio drama style background effects, has been produced and is being distributed to every home along with the tract. The new version of the Jesus film in video (2 hour lip-synched Japanese) is given to anyone willing to receive it. All tracts, cassettes and videos have been provided through generous donors, mainly in America, through the Jesus Film Project.

Each team tries to find a location where they can show the Jesus film at least twice, using 16mm projectors or video projectors or large screen TVs.

Each team also tries to find a location where they can share a cultural presentation from their country to attract Japanese and share the gospel. These and the film showings are mostly evening events, but may include visiting old folks homes, schools or other welfare facilities.

As they have opportunity, each team member tries to share the gospel, using English or the Bilingual 4 Spiritual Laws booklets.

LOVE KYUSHU HEAD OFFICE:

Mr. Hiroshi Horie
Hakata Christ Church 1-10-28 Aoki
Hakata-ku, Fukuoka-shi 816
or call 092-629-8311.

RECENT UPDATES ON THE PROJECT MAY BE SEEN ON THE WWW AT:

<http://home1.pacific.net.sg/~eao/kyushu.htm>

PRAYER REQUESTS ARE ISSUED THROUGH AN EMAIL LIST: Send your request to subscribe to LoveJ2000@aol.com

Update from
LOVE Kyushu '98
(as of late September)

Over 318,000 tracts distributed
Over 105,000 audio cassettes given out
Over 6,000 Jesus videos given to those interested
Over 300 postcard requests received for the Jesus video

"Japanese is my life's passion," or at least so wrote the 5 graduating students during part of JMLI's Graduation Ceremony on July 10, 1998. That same passion was evident throughout as the Japan Missionary Language Institute graduated its 74th class, at the Waseda Hoshien, Tokyo Peace Church's chapel.

Following the graduation ceremony the anniversary celebration kicked off with a high-quality commemorative video. About 1200 students have passed through the doors of the school, with 210 full-program graduates. Seventy or so teachers have given of their time and talents to assist the fledgling language-learners in getting a handle on 'Nihongo.'

Missionary Bob McKemey, a member of JMLI's second graduating class,

gave a challenge -to consider anew Paul's words in 1 Corinthians 13:1: "If I speak with the tongues of men and angels, but have not love...." Language is important, but only labour done by one truly abiding in Christ will last. Christ words, "Abide in me and I in you..." should be engraved on our hearts, Mr. McKemey exhorted.

Looking to the future of the school, Gary Fujino, organization president, introduced the "Friends of JMLI." Somewhat similar to the "booster clubs" so prevalent in the United States, this group "exists to continually foster prayer, disseminate information, encourage support and solicit participation on behalf of the Japan Missionary Language Institute."

The initial task of the "Friends of JMLI" is to create a mailing list of all those interested in supporting JMLI in some way. For more information, or to be included in the mailing list contact "Friends of JMLI" at the following:

JMLI c/o Waseda Hoshien
2-3-1 Nishi Waseda
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Glad Tidings Bible Studies: Tools for Church Growth

- *Mails Janatuinen*



The JEMA office was full to the bursting point; ten women sitting around the table, some on KGK's borrowed chairs, and the leader standing.

What was going on? A Bible study seminar started during the women's retreat in Karuizawa in March was continuing. These ten ladies came to learn how to lead Glad Tidings' Bible study groups. Two were Japanese, three (including me) were Finnish, one English, one Canadian and the rest from the U.S.

Teaching Bible Study training courses in Japanese or in Finnish is commonplace for me. Only once before have I taught this course in English - in Mongolia last year. Speaking English all day long was an endurance test for me - and perhaps a listening test for the participants!

An authentic Bible study started our seminar: Peter denies his Master (Luke 22: 54-62). As always happens during Glad Tidings studies, the Word touched our hearts. "This was like drinking a glass of clear, cold water on a hot day," one participant commented after finishing.

These training courses teach three important things:

1. How to lead a Bible study for people who know next to nothing about the Bible.
2. How to make questions related to a Gospel text.
3. How to motivate your congregation to start new house meetings.

Our task was to cover all this material in six hours. (Usually I teach half of this material if I only have half a day.)

The man with the shrivelled hand (Mark 3: 1-6) was our text for analysis. Before we started making questions, I said, "This text, perhaps, doesn't strike you as a very inspiring one, but I promise that before this day is over you will love the story."

And Jesus did, indeed, step out of the text into our group, speaking to us living words, as happens every time. He helped us as He helped the man with a useless hand. We felt that at last we understood why there was continual disagreement between Jesus and the Pharisees on the Sabbath issue. Jesus knew that the Sabbath was meant to give rest for people, including those who tried to earn their salvation. For Jesus the Sabbath was something that God gives freely to us. For the Pharisees the Sabbath was something people had to do to please God.

This was the Glad Tidings we found from that particular text. Glad Tidings Bible study means, among other things, that we try to find the Gospel (good news) in every text. This is the one message which the non-Christians need to hear in evangelistic house meetings throughout this country - and we Christians also need to hear it again and again.

Who can use Glad Tidings Bible Studies?

*Seekers who don't know much about the Bible.

*Christians who want to evangelize their relatives and neighbours.

*Pastors and missionaries with a vision of sharing responsibility with lay-people.

*Congregations wanting to grow through small group activities.

*English teachers who want to teach from the Bible.

The book, with 38 texts from the Gospel of Luke, will be published in September (New Life League). The texts will be printed both in English and in

Japanese with furigana, so that it won't be too difficult for a missionary to use the book, even in Japanese. The book is called Glad Tidings Bible Studies (Yoki Shirase no Manabi). Ask for it in your local Christian book store.

If you want to learn more about these Bible studies or training courses, you can contact me (see the JEMA directory) or one of the Japanese trainers: Reiko Suzuki, Yokohama (045-592-9757), or Michiko Hashimoto, Akashi (078-935-6523).

This particular group of missionaries and English teachers who came into the JEMA office in May was one of the most inspiring groups I've ever taught. Thank-you for coming, dear sisters!

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| 16. Chinese Art Calendars - from each October. Cheaper in quantity | ¥150 |

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The Japanese Page

日本語

-Miriam Davis

I have long had a fascination with katakana words in the Japanese language and never cease to be both amazed at the number of new ones, and frustrated by the difference in usage to the words in their original language. When the word 'humanism' in katakana on a poster caught my eye one day I read on to see in what context the word was being used.

ヒューマンイズムの政治
一人を大切に
公明党

政治(せいじ) = politics
大切(たいせつ) = important
公明党(公明党) = Koomeitoo
political party

As I read the slogan 人を大切に I reflected that these are words that Christians should not allow to be stolen away from them. Whatever the slogan meant for the Komeito party in the run-up to the Upper house election (Sangiinsenkyo) in July 1998, the only one who supremely demonstrates love and care for the individual is Jesus - he who gave his life that not a single human being should perish. The parable of the lost sheep (Luke 15) popped into my mind and the picture of the shepherd who leaves the 99 and seeks the one lost sheep until he finds it. Here already was the first point of a 3 point sermon!

一人を大切にするイエス様.

Point 2 was that if Jesus cares so much for each single individual then the Christian must also do the same, giving time and love to the particular individuals God has brought into our lives regardless

of whether they are responsive to him or not.

A second political slogan provided the jumping off point for point 3! This time both a TV advert and a poster impressed the words プラスな気持ちで on my mind.

日本はだめな国でしょうか。
必要なのはできると信じること。
プラスな気持ちで。*

As the viewer heard the last of these 3 lines, a yellow sphere flashed onto the TV screen with the word 'plus' in bold katakana in the centre and elsewhere on the screen the words 自民党(じみんと) = Liberal Democratic Party).

プラス=plus
気持ち(きもち)=feeling
必要(ひつよう)=necessary
必要なのは=what is necessary
と信じる(しんじる)=to believe that...

On Liberal Democratic Party posters were to be seen the words...

景気にプラス

and underneath that

強いリーダーシップと大胆な改革で? 気の早期回復を実現しましょう。

強い(つよい)=strong
大胆(だいたん)=bold
改革(かいかく)=reform
早期(そうき)=quick
回復(かいふく)=recovery
実現する(じつげんする)= to put into effect, realise (a plan).

As with the Komeito slogan I felt somewhat indignant that what surely can only really be true of the Christian -the 'purasu na kimochi' - was being used by the Liberal Democrats. My thoughts went to verses like Romans 8:35-39 with its "in all things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us" and John 16:33 (In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.) and 1 John 4:4. (The one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.)

So if we are to have the same mind that Jesus had, and are to follow his example of love and care for individuals, we must have the 'purasu na kimochi' that can only come from realising the truth of these verses, that in our own strength we can do nothing, but that with Him we can do all things. As someone said, one plus God is a majority. Literally translated this phrase becomes, 一人プラス神様は絶対多数, or 一人プラス神様は過半数です. However, "zettaitasuu" and "kahansuu" are not used in a metaphorical sense so explanation is necessary. For example, 一人の力は一人だけですが、そこに神様の力が加わる(くわわる)とオールマイティーになる、そして、怖い(こわい)ものなしになります。

* It is usual to say 'purasu no kimochi' rather than 'purasu na kimochi.' The use of 'na' here gives the phrase more emotional impact and freshness. It makes it more memorable and fashionable as a slogan.

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“How About That Hayama Missionary Seminar?”

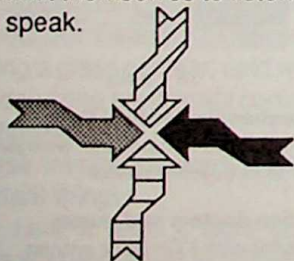
or “A Cloud of Witnesses and a New Generation”:
The 40th Hayama Missionary Seminar, January 4 - 6, 1999

Writers: *Cindy Dufty (content) and Lonnie Dufty (snappy attention getting title and editing)*

“Men discovered that Christ lives in the hearts of those whom they expected to be fanatics or heretics. Others were amazed to find such competent and gifted persons among groups so different from their own!”

This was one response to the first Hayama Missionary Seminar, held in 1960 at Hayama, Kanagawa Ken. As the fortieth Seminar will be held next January 1999 and forty years is a common Biblical measure of a generation, a look backward seems appropriate.

The initiators of the first Hayama conference included two Mennonites, Paul Peachy and Gordon Chapman, and a Baptist, Bill Hinchman. They wanted to address the theme, “Ministry of Reconciliation in a World of Conflict.” However, they realized that if missionaries were to have a role in addressing divisions and conflict, they should first be reconciled to one another. A conference was needed that was not “official” or action-oriented, but rather an opportunity for all participants to commit themselves to listen as well as to speak.



In that first gathering, missionaries found the experience so worthwhile that what the initiators assumed would be a “one-off” event became an annual conference. For forty years, Hayama has continued—with no permanent board, committee or elected officers! During that period, a great range of top-

ics relating to Japanese society and ministry have been considered, ranging from specifically Japanese themes such as church planting, Christian education and the Emperor system to matters of interest to Christians everywhere, topics such as the effect of media upon pastoral preaching and the evidences of God’s hand in the creation of the universe. Not only missionaries, but committed Christians from many disciplines have come to help us better accomplish the tasks which God has assigned us. Hayama remains a place where missionaries of any brand can come together for food, prayer, fellowship and stimulation of mind and spirit.

Preview of Hayama 1999

Two major questions will be considered:

(1) How can we as missionaries and Christian workers in Japan prepare for a fresh work of God—what has God done in the past and what will WE do when He does it again?

(2) The second, related, concern is “What are the generational changes and dynamic forces of the coming 21st Century which we need to be aware of?” We want to look at the characteristics of Japanese youth today, the influences such as mass media on their lives and some examples of effective discipleship and evangelistic ministry to young people.

For immediate information or comments, contact Lonnie Dufty at 0474-69-7080 or by email at Lonnie.Dufty@jemanet.gol.com.

Past issues of most of the Hayama Seminar Books are also available at low cost from the Duftys. CD Rom including Hayama books for the 90’s also available.

Thinking

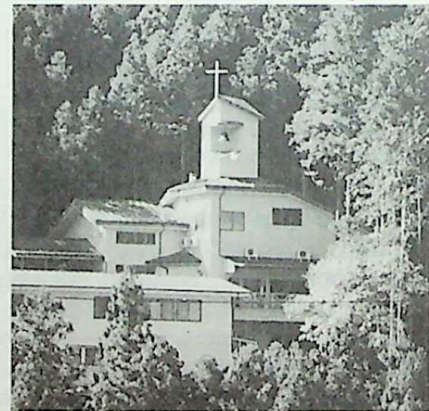
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BIRTH OF THE JAPAN CELL CHURCH MISSION NETWORK

-Daihao Kamei

The Japan Cell Church Mission Network was born at the Asian Cell Church Network Summit in November, 1997. Nearly 100 cell church leaders, representing 14 nations, gathered in Hong Kong for this historic event. Included in that number were 10 pastors and missionaries from Japan.

God, in His wonderful way, impressed on the hearts of those participants to start a similar movement in Japan as well. The Japan Cell Church Mission Network (JCMN) is not a para-church organization nor an embryonic denomination. Rather, it is a facilitating structure (network) of like-minded churches committed to working together to help fulfill the Great Commission in Japan and overseas.

Within this informal network are churches from a wide range of denominations as well as independent churches. What they have in common is a commitment to Christ-centered cell church principles.

The Japan Cell Church Mission Network's long term goals include:

1. Sharing of information and resources; publishing selected materials.
2. Sharing of training - such as jointly run Ministry Training Schools, missionary preparation courses, etc.
3. Sponsoring conferences, seminars, and study tours.
4. Ministering to the inner-life of pastors and lay leaders.
5. Mentoring (coaching) of pastors and lay leaders by advisers.
6. Sending, receiving and participating together in short/long-term cross-cultural mission teams.

From June 14 to 20 of this year, cell church conferences were held in the Tokai, Kansai, and Tokyo regions. Pastor Ben Wong of the Shepherd Community Grace Church in Hong Kong was the main speaker. Rather than talking about theory or "how-to's", Pastor Ben shared more about cell life-

style and crucial church atmosphere (ambience) that encourages healthy growth. About 550 people attended these three conferences.

Over 50 churches have already signed up to be part of the JCMN.

Those interested in more information about, or wanting to join the Japan Cell Church Mission Network, please contact:

JCMN Secretary

Ms. Megumi Matsuura

Phone: 0533-59-8386

E-Mail: JCMN@icbc.net.

The annual fee is ¥10,000.

The next JCMN event will be a series of special seminars by Dr. Bob Logan. They will be held from November 12-15. Please contact Megumi at the JCMN office for more information on specific times and locations.

JCMN Area Representatives & Resource Personnel

1. Hokkaido: Pastor Ryoichi Masuda. Teine Fukuin Christ Church. Tel: 011-683-5523
2. Tokyo: Pastor Takeshi Ogasawara Nerima Grace Chapel
Tel: 03-3991-4940
E-mail: b.infoweb.or.jp
3. Tokai: Pastor Yoshito Ishihara. International Christian Baptist Church Tel: 0533-59-8325
E-mail: office@icbc.net
4. Kansai: Pastor Akimasa Endo Kusunoha Christ Church
Tel: 0720-68-3303
5. Chugoku: Pastor Noritake Sakai Midori Makiba Christ Church
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6. Okinawa: Pastor Morio Gima Okinawa Revival Church
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POTPOURRI & PROMISES

HOME DECORATING *outside and in...*

(Part I of a two part series)

by Janice A. Kropp



May I resume the writing of this page with a special word? It is so good to be back! My husband and I left Japan with full intentions of a year's home assignment, but, by the precious leading of our Lord, we lengthened our stay to be there for one of our special sons. You may recall we have four! Speaking of the words "special son," I remember well the time I was talking with our youngster, Todd, who is now married and back in Japan as a Christian businessman. I had just told him how very special he was! He looked up at me with those big blue eyes and stated, Oh, Mom, you say that to everyone! How true. How true! I trust YOU feel special today.

Writing for the Japan Harvest has always been a privilege and joy! I am trusting our wonderful Lord to help me write on topics of interest, and yes, even topics of help!

We hadn't been back in Japan very long when I was asked to help with an English Workshop at the Nazarene Junior College in Yostukaido, 10 kilometers away. Did I have anything to offer? I wondered, but only for a short while. Why not teach interior decorating, a topic close to my own heart and one in which many of my friends might receive encouragement? So I went for it. Having written my own five hour course, off I went!

Out of twenty nine students enrolled in the workshop, five ladies chose my class. I began the study with the following:

QUESTION: Are you creative?

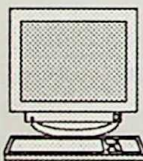
Answer: ___ Yes, I am.

___ No, I am not.

Various answers were given. I then turned to Genesis 1 and suggested that creativity was a part of our humanity. With lectures and daily work tasks the week quickly came to an end.

I asked my class the question, now, I take liberty in asking the same question of you, dear reader. Question: Are you creative? Yes or No?

According to the Word of God, all of us can answer in the POSITIVE. Yes, I am creative! God said, Let us make man in our image, in our likeness... Gen. 1:26. The twinkling stars — He scattered throughout space. The tiny, simple yet complex flowers — He so beautifully designed and made them grow. To be made in God's image certainly includes creativity! What of the marvel of computers, the complexity of the clock, the bulkiness of the blimp, not to mention sleek space crafts and fine Noritake china? What of poems,



comedy and fiction, not to mention fashion, interior design and architecture?

I read once that everyone is creative. The only difference, in those we call creative and those we call not, is, — some of us see ideas floating by and grab them, while others fail to either watch or catch.

Of course, it's not that easy, BUT let's give it a try!

My course included five lessons. #1 - Creativity - God given & for ALL; #2 Simplicity & Space; #3 Color & Design; #4 Personal Flair; and #5 My Project. The five classes went

better than I expected, in fact. On the final day while giving her project report, one student said she was calling in the carpenter! I smiled and mused, Now, that's success! Never had I dreamed anyone would take the interior decorating workshop to include permanent structural change and design. What a delight!

Lesson #1 included a simple process for creativity improvement. The process, composed of the following three parts, includes:

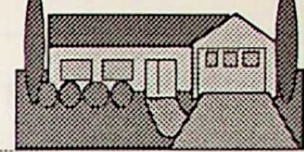
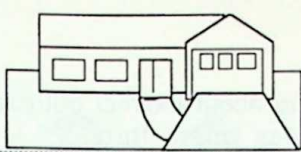
1. Be challenged by the unknown. Imagination brings ideas to us. Dream and let your mind wonder when you have a project.

2. Concentrate on the project. The more you think the more the ideas will come. It takes time.

3. Start today and start with what you have. Don't put off hard thinking. As you think, pray to the God of ALL ideas and I assure you the ideas will come. Be it a project at church, or interior decorating in your home, take what you know and what you have and go from there.

Having just moved to Yachiyo City, interior decorating is fresh on my mind! I love to do things like that. It all started with an old aqua bird cage I had picked up at a Christian Academy thrift shop. How was I ever going to use that old thing? Well, it ended up in the "otearai" (wash closet). Potpourri went in the bottom of the cage, along with a potted artificial violet plant and a carved blue bird. A little straw hat rests on top the cage with some ivy — a perfect decorative piece for that special room. The accessories of slippers, towel, wall hangings, etc. all match the aqua color. Wild isn't it! And, it all started with an old bird cage.





Home decorating takes tons of space in books and magazines never to be exhausted — ideas, ideas, ideas, creativity, creativity, creativity. Where does it ALL come from?

Let's start with what we see.

See the physical, understand the spiritual! Jesus did that so very often. Matthew 6:25-34. Consider the birds of the air, your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not more valuable than they? Lilies of the field, if that is how God clothes the grass of the field...will He not much more clothe you...?

When God creates, it is done with overwhelming care. No two snow flakes are alike, we are told. No two blades of grass are either. What the eye sees is of great importance in the creation story. When God was about to bring a Nation into existence for His wonderful glory, He likened it to the stars of the heavens. And again He compared Israel to the sands of the sea. Throughout Scripture we humans are likened to grass and flowers of the field, as sheep, as houses (built on the rock & the sand), to mention some. Jesus likened us, His chosen ones,



to lights, to salt, to fountains, to vines, to living stones the builder uses, to priests, to children, and so on. God is very much interested in kinds and variations.

In Japan where uniformity is so much a part of life, how does one maintain uniqueness? Do we rejoice in the glory of God's special creation — YOU and THEM? Let's never give the impression that God makes cookie cutter people. ç

About a month ago a rather young man walked into our church off the street. Wearing a knit cap and a jacket on a hot summer's day told us we were not meeting a cookie cutter individual! He inquired about our church meetings, and has been attending prayer meeting ever since. He requested additional personal

Bible study which my husband, Richard, now teaches weekly. The other day one of our believers mentioned that she was refreshed by Mr. Fukuda's uniqueness. No cookie cutter individual here!

You and I are also unique in this land many other ways! Our differences have positive influence in our communities and churches. I am not speaking here of our foreignness. I speak to being the person Christ has made us! Some of us are quiet! That is just fine. Others of us are not! And that's O.K..... Some of us have great vision and energy! Others plan in smaller ways and don't always see the big picture. That's just fine!

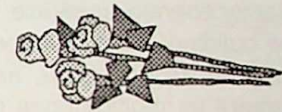
In God's home decorating plans, He has made us who we are! I trust we never feel like my little blue bird sitting in the aqua cage! He's but decoration. You and I are vital, unique and precious instruments of great use in the ever expanding Kingdom of God here in Japan.

Jesus, while praying to His Father, prayed, "I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity that the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me" John 17:23. Different, but unified. As in the home, each piece of artistic decoration works for the beauty of the entire room, the whole house. And, so, with the Kingdom of God!

Let us rejoice in our uniqueness; let us keep the unity. Why? Jesus said it simply, To let the world know...! Throw away the cookie cutters. No two people are alike whether they are our children, our spouses, our believers at church or fellow missionaries. May our uniqueness display the awesome creativity of God, and then may we point someone back to Jesus, today!

(Part II will be on the topic — HOME DECORATING inside and out...)

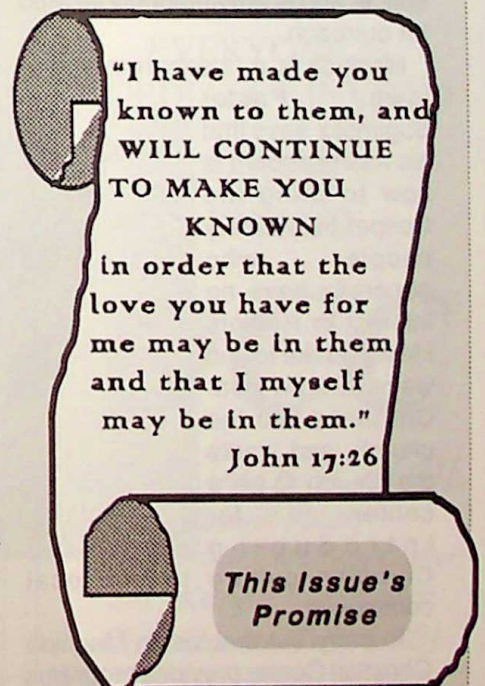
*Did you hear
what someone said?
If you are not beautiful
at age fifteen,
don't worry,
it's not your fault.
But,
if you are not beautiful
at age fifty,
that is your fault.*



Country Magazine gave the following word:

A good marriage is like an omelet—only those who make it know what goes into it.

(Marriage Partnership Magazine , 1988.)



"I have made you known to them, and WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE YOU KNOWN in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them."
John 17:26

This Issue's Promise

Transformations

Offices Into Churches

(At the time of Bubble, it was nearly impossible to buy an office building for a church; but, with the recession it is now more of a possibility. Just a five minute walk from the JR Odakyu line's Machida station, two churches took up residence in two different buildings.)

Machida Christian Center

In late May Machida Christian Center opened anew in a former office building. The first floor was renovated as a chapel, and the basement as multipurpose rooms. The second floor has become the pastor's residence, church office and missionary housing. The third and fourth floors are rental apartments.

The four-story facility, including the lot, totalled 103 million yen. The church says that instead of paying high monthly rent, it was more economical to purchase their own building. The building has plenty of space, and is advantageously located for outreach.

Machida is a "salary-man's bedroom town." Pastor Sugimoto says that his main concern is how to bring the Gospel to ordinary people who generally have no interest in religion. He would like to find ways to draw non-Christians into the church, and wants the church to be a center for introducing Christian culture to the local community.

To carry out that vision Machida Christian Center provides programs which meet various needs of the community. English conversation

class, sign language, counseling, personal computer, and classes for young mothers and children are now part of their outreach.

Tokyo Horizon Chapel

Tokyo Horizon Chapel had rented a building near Minami Machida Station for several years. After investigating about seventy parcels of land and scouring advertisements for three years, they decided it was most economical to purchase a four-floor office building. Having eight rooms, it was seen as a great bargain since the 220 million yen price tag included the cost of renovation.

About 130 attend the Sunday service, but since the chapel capacity is only 90, they have adapted another room for others to join in the service via televised monitor.

Vehicle access is good and there is plenty of space. More than anything else, it does not look like a church, which fits with the thrust of their outreach.

Tokyo Horizon Chapel's ministry goal is to use the church building effectively during the week. Pastor Hirano says that he would like the facility to be a bridge between the church members and the community. English proficiency classes and English conversation class were started in July and culture courses such as flower arranging, painting, and making black tea started in September. Pastor Hirano is also



thinking about indirect outreach for business men through lecture meetings and other activities aside from church worship services.

Ayako Miura Memorial Museum Library Opens

On June 13 the Ayako Miura Memorial Museum Library opened in Asahikawa City, Hokkaido. At the opening ceremony, witnessed by 450 guests, Mrs. Miura and her husband cut the tape along with the Vice Governor of Hokkaido and the Mayor of Asahikawa City. Mr. Mitsuyo Miura, her husband, read greetings on his wife's behalf, as she suffers from incurable Parkinson's disease and has difficulty speaking.

38 years ago, after Mrs. Miura was released from 13 years of medical treatment, the Miuras came to the Mihon Forest, in the Asahikawa district, for the first time. This area was the setting for Mrs. Miura's first novel "Hyoten."

In this, the centennial of the forest's establishment, Mrs. Miura shared her deep gratitude that on this special anniversary the Museum Library had been completed commemorating her works. She also took the opportunity to express thanks to those who helped with developing her writing skills.

The museum is built as a two-stored hexagon, depicting crystals of snow. Expenses for the construction were covered by funds sent from readers and through a subsidy given by Asahikawa City.

The museum has 5 exhibition rooms under the common theme of 'Light, Love and Life.' Displayed are all her works, showing in particular the steps to her becoming a writer. Also included are all the records related to her award-winning first novel 'Hyoten.'. Different facets of her daily life are revealed using panels, photographs and videos. Her own handwritten Bible verses are also on display.

It is hoped that the museum will be a place for visitors to better understand Christianity and the Bible through the testimony of Ayako Miura's faith as seen through her life and work.

Do You Believe in Myths?

As I have been involved in the leadership of the JEMA Church Planting Institute I have come across several myths about what we are doing. Many of those people *uninvolved* in CPI thus far have been misled by some of the following myths:

Myth #1: CPI is only for church planters. To see a churchplanting movement established in Japan, God needs many workers besides "church planters." There are many committed to the CPI vision who are not church planters.

Myth #2: CPI is only training. I think many enjoy CPI because it is not only training. We do training at the conference and throughout the year. But we also provide resources, support and encouragement, mentoring and coaching.

Myth #3: CPI is only conferences. Our Annual Conference, this year Oct 20-23, is the biggest event of the year. But CPI is a process that is year round. The conference is a time to renew our vision, network with other church planters and renew our hearts with God. Mentoring groups are year-round.

Myth #4: CPI is only for men. Most involved in CPI are men, but that does not have to be. Many like myself, have a great team member in our wives. There are many other single women involved in church planting evangelism. We are trying to meet the needs of women as well.

Myth #5: CPI is only for new church planters. Experienced church planters stay away from CPI because they figure it is not for them. They think they do not need it. But CPI is for the whole church planting task in Japan. We need you if you have little or a lot of experience.

Myth #6: CPI cannot help me. CPI can help you. CPI is a movement of missionaries committed to "helping each other." You will be helped by CPI, I can guarantee it.

But, we want you to be involved in contributing to others as well. CPI is not a one way street. Bring what you have and we will share with you.

Myth #7: Dr. Steve Childers is an expert on Japan. Dr. Childers freely admits that he is not an expert on Japan. However, he is an expert on challenging and training church planters. Everyone who has heard him acknowledges he is a great help to us here in Japan.

Myth #8: CPI is being led from Tokyo. Though committee meetings are usually held in Tokyo, the 16 members of the leadership team represent several nations and prefectures from Hokkaido to Okinawa.

If you are in church planting and evangelism in Japan and are as yet uninvolved in CPI, one of these or some other myth may have hindered you. You should be involved! We need you--you need us. Let us work together for the development of a church planting movement in Japan. You can become involved right now in this year's conference, in regional peer mentoring groups, and the CPI network on the Internet. Let us know how we can help you.

--John Mehn, CPI Chairman

Jill Briscoe Seminars - "Prayer That Works"

Tokyo Baptist Church Monday, November 2 (9:30 - 4:00)

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Our JEMA Family



In Memory...

Susan Dyck, born in 1922, served under the Christian and Missionary Alliance since 1953--entered in to the glorious presence of her Lord on Mother's Day this year. "Her thirty-year ministry in Japan can only be described as extraordinary, even apostolic..." writes her biographer-pastor Eugene Neudorf.

Her colleagues miss her greatly. All those she won to Christ here in Japan, also mourn her home-going. But, all who knew her would say she is right where she always wanted to be, at Jesus' side, enjoying Him forever.

Susan was struck with Alzheimer's disease some eleven years ago, and quietly entered into His rest. Her life story has been published by Christian Publications, Inc. (Camp Hill, PA), entitled, A Light to All Japan.

Remembering...

Nathan Wade Scott, son of TEAM missionaries Cliff and Marg Scott, passed into God's presence on July 16 in a farming accident in Saskatchewan, Canada.

Nathan, was looking forward to his senior year in Business Administration at Trinity Western University, British Columbia, Canada. He is sadly missed by his parents, sister Janelle, all those who knew him at Christian Academy in Japan, and all TEAM missionaries.

From the JEMA Community

Child Evangelism Fellowship of Japan- 50 Years Thanksgiving Celebration

Monday, November 23, 1998
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Yamazaki Pan Koseinenkin Kikin Kaikan
1-3-14 Ishikawa
Ishikawa-shi, Chiba-ken

<<<Speakers>>> Fee - ¥5000

*Mr. Reese Kauffman, President, CEF Inc.

*Mr. John Cook, Vice-President,
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*Rev. Cheng Huat Tan, Asian/Pacific
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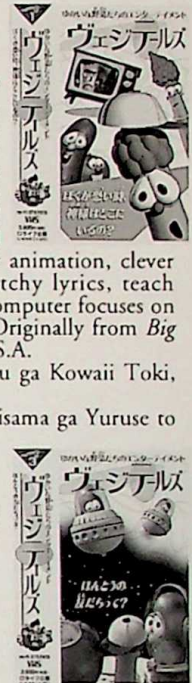
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Warm heart communication by Aunt Stella



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





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