

McGinty Prayer Update & Video April 16, 2011; Letter 6 from Mike and Rowena

Dear Family & Friends,

Thank you for your continued prayers for Japan.

We wanted to send you this OMF video that has just been released highlighting some of the spiritual needs that accompany the physical devastation of the earthquake and tsunami. I worked hard to put this together with another colleague immediately after our return from areas devastated by the tsunamis. OMF has been praying for many years about how and when to work in this area as it is the least church area in Japan and the Japanese remain the world's largest unreached people group. As we consider pushing forward with that now despite our limited resources, it is clear that we will need many more workers. Especially needed are people committed to long-term church planting in more rural areas away from the conveniences of the big cities where there are international schools, easy contact with missionaries outside your own team, other churches close by etc. Please pray to the Lord of the Harvest, asking Him to send the workers needed for the harvest field (Matt 9:37-38).

The video can be found at <http://vimeo.com/22420842> it can also be downloaded (follow the instructions on the page) if you want to play it in church, a prayer group etc. Please pray for more workers and the support that they need to come. It is wonderful that so much has been given to help with earthquake relief here in Japan and OMF Japan is grateful to have the privilege of administering some of those funds in partnership with local churches to make a difference to the people affected. However, there are missionaries waiting to come and minister to people's spiritual needs but don't have the necessary support. Please pray for the Lord's provision for workers for the harvest as well.

We would also like to pass on another video link http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d4tnqhMTc_k which is an interview (with English subtitles) with Pastor Kondo in Morioka. He has been a key pastor in helping us facilitate relief trips into the afflicted areas and his advice has been very instrumental as we think through our long term strategy.

We also want to GIVE THANKS that Satsunae Lighthouse Church now has a Japanese pastor!!! Many of you have been on this journey with us for the past 11 years so it was with great joy that we participated in his induction ceremony last Sunday. As I shared at the ceremony, it is great having a church that we loved being shepherded by a pastor we love, as Horita sensei is a long time friend. Please continue to pray for this precious group of believers as they have reached this final stage of independence from OMF.

Everyone should have received by now our circular letter "*I Want to Return to Those Days*" which was mailed earlier in the week. If you didn't and want to receive a copy, please let us know. We are facing many new challenges in these days as the earthquake has shaken all of our lives, disrupting our normal routines and calling us to serve in new and different ways. We have some major decisions ahead of us both personally and as a mission that we would appreciate your prayers for.

Thanks for being on our team,

Mike & Rowena