Praise:

1 Rikako saved

2 The church has been offered a mortgage

3. Good response to the video update

Canavan Family

Sowing the gospel * Watering the hearers * Reaping changed lives

Prayer Requests

1. Owners to accept our offer for the church building

2. Souls saved thru our attempts to reach the youth of Ireland

3. Raise the remaining $12,000 for the down payment

March 2017 - God has blessed in a tremendous way. One of the major hurdles to buying our building has been overcome. A bank has granted us a mortgage for the amount we need and at a good rate! The next major hurdle is for the owners to accept our offer. Please continue to pray with us for this next hurdle to be overcome!

Rikako is one of the three students of our Sunday afternoon English class that accepted Christ as her Saviour. Rikako is from a Buddhist family from Japan who was in Ireland to become proficient in English. An aunt of hers is saved and has tried to witness to her over the years. So the gospel was not completely foreign to her. She was curious to learn more and decided to attend our church for the morning service. She felt very comfortable in our church as we and some of the church members befriended her.

In September, Rikako agreed to do a one-on-one evangelistic Bible study with Beth in her home. She had her friend, Natsuki, join her. Natsuki had no prior exposure to the gospel other than attending our church. Both young ladies were eager to learn about Christianity from a Christian. As we studied together, it was clear that Rikako was understanding the gospel quicker.

On the evening that I was to ask them if they had ever accepted Christ, there arose a contrary spirit. I knew that it was because this was a spiritual battle and the enemy knew that at least one of them was close to being saved. When I asked, Natsuki quickly answered, "No, and I'm not ready to." Rikako hesitantly gave the same reply. However, they both agreed to meet the following Thursday for the next Bible study.

In this next Bible study, I came with no expectation of any salvation decision. Several people were praying for us. I reviewed the gospel and when I came to repentance, Rikako stopped me. She said that this was her problem. I asked her why. She said that she wanted to turn from her old ways and trust Christ and live His way, but she didn't think she could live His way. When she came to understand that when she repented and trusted Christ that He would help her to live His way, she was visibly relieved. She then said, "I believe."

From that point on there was a difference in Rikako. She was hungry for the Word of God, not just curious. She also became very burdened for Natsuki to be saved and encouraged her to do so. She wanted to be baptized, but only after we completed a Bible study on baptism. We had only started the Bible study when she suddenly made the decision to return to Japan because her grandfather was dying. Since returning to Japan, She has witnessed to her grandfather and he is listening. She has also found a church and is attending regularly.

Sincerely,
Beth Canavan

Email:
dan@hope.ie
beth@hope.ie

In Ireland:
Apt 522
Galloping Green
Stillorgan, Co. Dublin
IRELAND

011-353-876-383-105
www.hope.ie

Sending Church:
Heritage Baptist Church
14510 Spriggs Road
Woodbridge, Va 22193

703-680-6629
www.visitheritage.com

Mission Board:
BIMI
P.O. Box 9
Harrison, TN 37341

423-344-5050
www.bimi.org