



*Ethel Wilson*

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## Back in Japan

Greetings from Japan. It's hard to believe that I've been back for almost two months already. I thoroughly enjoyed spending time at my home church, as well as visiting with several current supporting churches and a few potential new supporting



churches. However, I'm very glad to be back home in Japan, back with the church family here, and especially back with our Japanese believers (a recent Japanese fellowship is pictured). I'm also very glad to be able to stay in one place again for a while. I LOVE being able to visit old friends and make new ones, and I enjoy travel in general, but sometimes furlough travel is a little hard on the body. I rejoice in the Lord's strength getting me through.

My health needs seem to have all been attended to, for now at least. However, my financial support is still somewhat low. In spite of that, **the Lord has provided in wonderful ways**, through special gifts, and even some additional English students. ***Please pray that God will continue to meet my needs***, and that if it is His will, my monthly support level or the current yen rate will increase.

## Exciting News

We recently had an exciting new birth take place here at Yokosuka Baptist Church. **Chris**, a young man who used to be in my Sunday School class until he moved up to the teen group, **recently trusted Christ as his Savior**. Three of our teens had planned to go to youth camp on the island of Okinawa (southernmost part of Japan). However, a typhoon cancelled their travel arrangements not once but twice. Our pastor decided that they would need to cancel for this year. However, knowing that the teens were disappointed, he decided to have a special overnight outing with them. Chris was not scheduled to go to camp since he is in Japanese school and would not be able to miss an entire week of classes. However, his godly, Christian parents saw the wisdom in allowing him to miss two days of school to go on this retreat; and during that time Chris put his faith in Christ. I had talked with him, others had also, but this time he was finally ready to take that step. I've asked prayer for him in previous prayer letters and thought you might enjoy seeing the picture of his baptism.



## Sunday School

I'm enjoying being back with my Sunday School class. It's always exciting to see the children growing. A few weeks ago, prior to a festival that is deeply rooted in Oriental mythology, one of the girls asked me "Can Christians do Tanabata?" Meaning is it okay for Christians to write their wishes on little paper strips that are attached to bamboo branches in hopes of those wishes coming true. We talked about the fact that it is only God Who can answer our prayers and that we must rely only on Him. It's a blessing to see even a first grade girl developing spiritual discernment, with the help of her Christian mom and two older sisters. ***Please pray for this dear family*** while they are in the states for a visit (mom is American); ***they are not entirely sure whether they will be returning to Japan***. Although the father is unsaved, the mom and girls truly have a heart for reaching Japan, and have been the source of many Japanese visitors to our church and Sunday School class. They will truly be missed if they do not return.

As always, thank you so much for partnering with me through your prayers for the sake of the gospel in the country of Japan. An extra-special thanks to those of you who are part of my financial support team, particularly during these difficult and uncertain economic times. I could not be here serving without all of you and without the Lord's grace.

In His Service,

*Ethel*

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