

**From:** David & Yuka [mailto:dlord@bridgehome.us]  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 15, 2011 5:27 PM  
**To:** Darryl Wong  
**Subject:** May Prayers and praise

Dear Friends and Family,

In his classic novel, *A Tale of Two Cities*, Charles Dickens writes:

*It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of light, it was the season of darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us. . . .*

**On May 11, "Tepco said** it had found another leak of highly contaminated water into the sea but was able to halt the flow. More than 80,000 local residents living within a 20km (12 mile) radius of the plant have been evacuated from their homes." (BBC News)

Did you get that? More than **80,000 people have been evacuated** from their homes and "there is no timescale yet for allowing residents to return"!!!



**Nearly 15,000 people are confirmed dead and more than 9,800 remain unaccounted for,** according to the latest police figures. *But as staggering as these numbers are, this is still fewer than the number of deaths by suicide that been happening year after year after year.*

The number of people still living in evacuation centers stands at about 115,000 - mostly in Miyagi, Iwate and Fukushima prefectures.

**This is really the "worst of times," Japan's "winter of despair." And yet, this is the best of times!!**

One report from the disaster zone said: *"We were amazed at how these {Christian evacuee centers} have such a warm and loving atmosphere! Such a difference from those city run evacuation centers. Christians are worshipping and praying together even in the midst of this tragedy. Four families accepted Christ in this church after the earthquake!"*

**One young man who is NOT a Christian said,** "I don't believe in God, but as I read the Bible, it seems that faith in God gives people hope when they are in difficult circumstances (like the people in the shelters as a result of the earthquake and tsunami)". As we know, for those who are believers in Jesus there is a comfort, a peace that goes far beyond understanding. Even as we walk through the valley of the shadow of death we know that God walks with us and gives us comfort.

**There is incredible heroism** among the workers at the nuclear plants! This same report tells of one of these workers who just accepted Christ four days earlier who took his Bible to work with him. He said, "call me a 'power plant worker with Bible.'"

**These next several months.** will be very busy for us. We are encouraged by the additional support that many of you have offered. But as the time begins to draw near we realize that there is much work left to be done. Please be praying with us for the additional monthly support that we need.

**Yuka and I enjoyed a day of hiking.** Hiking is something we really enjoy. But walking the path, enjoying the beauty of God is not easy. We climb hills, endure heat, feel a growing number of aches and pains and sometimes wonder just how much farther until we reach the car!! However, although it is not easy, it is always rewarding. . . . a bit like ministry sometimes!!

**Here are a few important and even urgent prayer requests!!** We are so grateful for your ministry of prayer and also to those of you who contribute financial support. These are what God uses to keep us moving forward.

1. My friend, K san. He has been opening up more and more and just two days ago we had the best conversation I've ever had with him. He is really beginning to "get it" and he seems genuinely interested in the things of the Gospel.

2. Another friend, Y san is *so* open!! BUT something seems to be blocking further progress. Please pray for some openings and that Y will move from "openness" to "*interested*"!!

3. PIE Nights. This outreach with the Christ United Presbyterian Church. Please be in prayer for more and better student contacts. The volunteers have been wonderful, the Pies are amazing!!!!, and the conversations have been good. But I'd like to see it move to a deeper level. . . . where the students and volunteers can make deeper connections.

4. I am helping a ministry called Global International Missions begin an outreach to students at UC Berkeley. This is a completely new outreach and I don't know just how things will develop but it is an exciting opportunity to see a new ministry born before we leave for Japan.

5. Thank you for your prayers for the cafe. It is now open and things are progressing well. They have had a worship meeting and are praying for us to be equipped to come join them as soon as possible!!

6. Over the Memorial Day weekend we are going to take a group of students on a retreat to the Lord's Land. We are praying for some breakthrough conversations and events. Please join us in praying for these students to take steps of faith bringing them closer to salvation in Christ!! And we would appreciate prayer as we prepare for that time both physically and spiritually.

Thank you for everything. May God continue to bless you with a growing awareness of His presence!!

david & yuka

**Ministries of BridgeHome ~  
Japan:**

- [BridgeHome Fellowship:](#)  
A 'simple' church body that meets on Sunday evening at Cafe' & Beyond.
- [Cafe & Beyond](#) Check out the new web site. The Cafe is almost ready to open!!
- [J-Lodge:](#) A funky cafe' located near the Tokaidai University.
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**Please pray!**

- for our personal Spiritual life
- that God will prepare the hearts of those who will come to the cafe
- that God will give us a loving boldness as we share His love
- for our financial support
- that God will tear down spiritual strongholds raised up in Japan against His Name, His Word and His Spirit.

**To send support:**

You can donate online! Just click on the donate button.

- You will be directed to the JEMS web site where you can select "Japan International Ministry" from the drop down menu.
- Then you will see a second drop down menu where you can select, "David Mills".

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