

The Riffel Christmas Prayer Update

*Missionaries to Saku,
Nagano Japan*



Dear friends,

December 17, 2022

But let all those that put their trust in
because thou defendest them: let them also that
bless the righteous. Psalm 5:11-12

thee rejoice: Let them ever shout for joy,
love thy name be joyful in thee. For thou, LORD, wilt

We can hardly believe it's December! Last month we had a wonderful thanksgiving with our church. Mrs. Ikegame, who has not come for a long time, came to our service. We are praying she will come again this Christmas. We were also thrilled that Shoko's husband who had gone with us on our Fall church outing also stopped in for a while during our thanksgiving banquet.



Thank you for your prayers for these events and for Samantha. We had a very special outing with her in October that we feel has drawn her closer and she is growing in the Lord. We are thankful for her mother Rose too who truly is giving her all to train her five precious girls to love Jesus.



December started with two Christmas parties with our English students and their families. All of our students came and we were able to share the true meaning of Christmas and their need for salvation once again. Although no one was ready to accept Christ at the parties, we were encouraged when one girl raised her hand stating she had prayed in the past to accept Jesus. We have taught them that they can call on the Lord Jesus at any time but had not known that she had prayed on her own. So, we are praying that as we continue teaching her English next year, we will have many opportunities to help her grow in the Lord. Please continue to pray for these beautiful families that they will open their hearts to Jesus.



This year has been a busy one for our Abi as she juggles her freshman year of high school and editing her book (it is a long process). We so appreciate those who have prayed for her and shown interest in her book



and given tips. Abi has also started producing our bulletin and has helped us bake cookies and brownies for our different events. April is teasing her about taking her on as the main baker in the family. She is such a joy to us. Mom also has been such a blessing to us as she continues to work hard in so many capacities at the church and in our home! We really do not know what we would do without her. She is helping Mrs. Eiko grow in the Lord as she spends hours training her and teaching the young children's Sunday School class.

As we draw closer to Christmas, we are getting excited about our church Christmas Sunday. Our church family will all be participating with different special music. Please pray for this outreach as we already know that there are three visitors coming and praying for more. Please pray with us as we continue to witness to our Japanese friends. Many Japanese are now focused on the New Year festivities and not thinking of Christmas. Please pray with us for revival in Japan. We are praying that God would open new outreach opportunities for us in this upcoming year and have brainstormed some ideas. Please pray God will guide us. As a part of this, we are praying for funds to print flyers as well as get more tracks and gospel of John and Romans to give out. Please let us know if you would be interested in helping with this need.

Last but not least, we truly want to thank you all for your prayers and support. Your faithfulness there helps us to faithfully serve here. Have a very Merry and Blessed Christmas! -The Riffel Family