



# The Evans family taking the Gospel to Japan

March 10, 2020

## Dear Praying Friends

Even though it's less than two weeks since our last prayer letter, we have several urgent matters relevant to the Corona virus situation which are directly affecting us, and for which we covet your prayers. So, we're taking this opportunity to update you on the situation here.

### Firstly, Kiara

Last night, Kiara had what appeared to be a small seizure, during which she rested herself and managed to get through. This is only the second time ever that this has happened to her. Since the first time was just a month ago, we felt it prudent to take her to see a neurologist first thing this morning. As she was undergoing the first round of consultation with the nurse, she started having another seizure and was immediately transferred to a stretcher and rushed away for brain scanning and monitoring. As the Lord's providence would have it, just today, there was an epilepsy specialist from the Sapporo University Hospital, on the premises and he stepped straight into action. Initial scans and readings showed no abnormality in the brain, nor brainwave patterns indicative of epilepsy. As a result of today, Kiara was admitted on the spot, and is spending the night in HCU. Tomorrow she will undergo a very rigorous programme of testing, scanning and monitoring to try and determine what is going on. Sadly, due to increased measures to protect hospitals from potential Corona infection, Kiara is not allowed to have any family members with her during the whole ordeal. Further, the specialist mentioned to us that there are some tests that are only available to her at the epilepsy unit at his city hospital, however, he is hesitant to transfer her there, as they are actively accepting Corona care patients. Please pray for the doctors to have wisdom in how and where to proceed, that tomorrow's testing would produce some concrete direction as to how she can be helped and that the peace of God would rule in her heart (and her families' hearts) as we go through this situation.

### Secondly, the exchange rates

As the Corona virus is disrupting manufacturing supply lines, export/import relationships and stock markets in particular, as well as the global oil crisis, the exchange rate of the Australian dollar against the Japanese yen is deteriorating quickly. We are currently at the lowest rates we have seen for some eleven years and way below the average rates we have calculated our support and spending at. We know that the Lord has the situation in control and we have often seen Him faithful to provide in "tight"



*Live Stream to a record high attendance!*

situations, but we do ask that you would pray with us concerning God's provision.

### Finally, Live Streaming

Since late February, we have seen both our Hokkaido Prefectural Government and also Japanese Prime Minister

taking severe steps to try and stop the progress of the virus through the population. We mentioned in our last letter that for at least 2-3 weeks, we would be live-streaming our Sunday am services and asking the brethren to worship from home. The first Sunday (March 1), the service was a huge blessing. Not only did almost all our regulars contact us to say they were able to join in and were blessed by the service, but we were able to include some others in the service also... several previous Suzuran attendees who are now separated by distance, members of our Obihiro outreach, whom usually we can only visit once every two months and 3 of our current members, who have been struggling in their faith and have been away from church! The second Sunday, where we actually allowed access to the livestream through our church homepage and not just by private invitation, saw a 50% increase on accesses from the previous week. Although our Hokkaido state of emergency is due to conclude on March 18, today the Prime Minister has called for the entire country to continue to exercise restraint in "non-essential gatherings" for at least another ten days, and there is also talk of the entire nation being placed in a state of emergency. Please continue to pray for our church folk that not only would their faith remain strong, but that they would find and use opportunities to share Christ with those around them. Pray also that the live streaming would be used to reach a far wider audience than we normally would expect and that we would have wisdom in different decisions for the church.

Thank you for standing with us, your prayers mean much to us at this time.

Striving for much fruit in Japan that remains,

Tony & Debbie,  
Susannah, Malachi & Kiara  
Benjamin & Megumi



*"Praying with coverings" takes on a whole new meaning!*

Tony & Debbie  
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