

Nakamura News



Japan Campus Crusade for Christ *Spring 2007*

Mitsu & Karen Nakamura 2-13-5-208 Higashi-cho, Nishitokyo-shi, Tokyo 202-0012 mitsukaren@yahoo.com

“Do you have a friend you can express any honest thought to without fear of appearing foolish...who will let you talk through a problem without giving you advice...who will take the risk to tell you that you are sinning?...Do you meet with a friend weekly or bi-weekly for fellowship and prayer, and possibly accountability?” Pat Morley asks these questions to men in *The Man in the Mirror*. We are so grateful that God has provided such friends, these accountability partners, for Mitsu. Many more men are learning to open up in the safe environment of the Celebrate Recovery groups. Mitsu leads two groups that are open to anyone, and is in one for pastors and Christian workers. We were reminded of how much this type of ministry is needed, as last year in Tokyo, we heard of a pastor and a church evangelist who tragically took their own lives.



Pastor Seiji (middle) is our new pastor, and has helped our church begin many new avenues of outreach, as a purpose-driven church. **Though there are still struggles and difficulties, many new people have been coming, and many people are experiencing the freedom and joy of the Christian life.** Naoto (r) and Keisuke (l) work at Purpose Driven Japan and have helped edit and publish *The Purpose Driven Life* and *Celebrate Recovery* materials in Japanese.

A friend and I were talking the other day about how our Moms in Touch prayer group is really a discipleship group – discipling women in prayer, in childrearing, etc. The same with the Recovery Groups. It’s not me leading them, but all of us discipling each other. God has really been working in lives!

*A friend who was struggling with anxiety, has stabilized and is reaching out sharing God’s love with others in her neighborhood.

*A few of us also meet weekly to pray for our husbands. One friend’s husband went through a devastating sickness and stopped trusting the Lord. The prayers of many are being answered, as my friend has been upheld, and as her husband has started turning back to the Lord. We are rejoicing in small steps! **Please rejoice and pray with us that he will fully trust the Lord again.**

*One friend will start her own Recovery Group at her church. She has invited one woman to join who very tragically lost her husband last year. **Please pray that this woman will join my friend's group and find hope and healing.**

*Another friend, a missionary from Korea, has had numerous opportunities to befriend and to share with many Japanese, moms of her daughter's friends at school. She and her husband are planting a new church. They have recently seen new families coming.



About 20 years ago, a Christian student and I went out witnessing on campus and met a freshman named Keiko (l). She later received Christ, grew, joined our staff and has been used to share with and disciple countless numbers of students over the years. This year, she has taken the position of Human Resource Director for

Japan Campus Crusade. She is now boss to both Mitsu and me! And a great boss she is, too – caring for people and good with the administrative details (The scope and administrative aspects of that job really clashed with Mitsu's work style, so he stepped down from that position a few years ago to concentrate on teaching and translating). Her desire is that each of our staff be able to serve with fulfillment and purpose, according to their gifts and passion. This has also been my dream, and it is great to work under Keiko toward that goal. **Pray for wisdom for Keiko in this job.**

Another student that I discipled 20 years ago (photo, right) has been living in a part of the world where recently three Christians were brutally killed for their faith. **Please pray for her and for the believers in that area of the world to experience the joy and confidence of His presence.**

We will be in the U.S. from this September. Three years have passed since our last home assignment. We have received permission to take 9-10 months instead of the usual 6 months, because we will not only be visiting and sharing with our wonderful support team members, but also helping my mom, who has many health problems, to clear out her house to move to a different situation. I also will home-school our three children. Mitsu, who has completed one-fourth of the translation of *The New Evidence That Demands a Verdict* (it will be published soon!), hopes to complete the rest of the book during this time. **So, we have four big jobs for us during our time in the U.S.: visiting our support team members; translation; home-schooling; helping my mom. Please pray for us, to have his direction, peace and wisdom moment by moment!**

We are grateful for you and look forward to seeing you!

Love,

Mitsu and Karen