

## Ralph and Miho Clatworthy – Prayer Letter

June 23, 2017



"I thank my God...for your fellowship in the Gospel from the first day until now." (Philippians 1:3,5)

Dear Praying Friends,

**Pray for our Support.** We are thankful for so many of you who have supported and prayed for our ministry for so long. As of the end of May our support is at 73%. If you would like to know more about support, OMF makes it easy with an on-line link:

<https://omf.org/us/give/giving-information/ways-to-give/>

**Pray for Outreach at Rugby World Cup 2019 and Tokyo Olympics 2020.** The picture of the pavilion in the collage above shows you the vision for 2020. Pray for permission from Tokyo city authorities, and for enough staff to work at the pavilion. Pray for a good planning meeting on Monday, June 26.

**Pray for Mrs. Kobayashi.** Thank you for your prayers for her, pictured with Miho. She is growing in faith through Miho's studies and looking forward to baptism. She is now even praying out loud in small groups.

**Pray for Italians Davide and Silvana.** We minister to any nationality God sends our way, not just Japanese. I still have a busy wedding ministry, and last month I celebrated the wedding of an Italian couple, pictured above with family. The ceremony was in English, but I prepared the final benediction in Italian. As I got to the end of the benediction everyone was reciting the words with me from memory; and after we finished, they all gave a cheer! Pray that this family's Christian background will lead them into a deeper personal faith with God.

**Pray for Vietnamese Doan and Anh.** Recently I made friends with two young Vietnamese working at the convenience store across the street from our church. And wouldn't you know I just HAPPENED to have a source for Vietnamese New Testaments! And wouldn't you know that the Sunday I went to the convenience store to give the New Testaments to them just HAPPENED to be the last day for one of the Vietnamese to be in Japan!

Both of them beamed when they saw the New Testament in their own language. And if I had waited another day, I would have missed giving it to one of them. Pray for Doan and Anh to open, read and believe the Word of God.

**Pray for our upcoming preaching ministry.**

July 2 Miho preaches at a church in Kita Hiroshima, Sapporo.

July 9 Miho preaches at her home church, Toei, in Sapporo.

July 9 Ralph preaches at Chapel of Adoration in the Tokyo area.

**Pray for Seisho no Kotoba (“God’s Word”), a new evangelistic effort on Facebook.** “Seisho no Kotoba” is an evangelistic media project of OMF with the goal to get the Word of God into the hands of Japanese via social media. We do that by posting one Bible verse a day on Facebook. The way Facebook works, if a page gets more than 20,000 “Likes”, the page is promoted more actively. Click below and “Like” the page for us. Tell all your friends, too. (You don’t have to understand the Japanese to like it!)

<https://www.facebook.com/SeishonoKotoba/>

**Pray for “Chapel Café” on June 27, an outreach of the Ladies Circle at Chapel of Adoration.** The ladies will all be inviting non-Christian friends to come for a special program.

**Pray for an army of new motivated Japanese evangelists to come forth from the recent SHINE street ministry.** Thank you for your prayers for this recent intense street outreach in Tokyo. We linked you to videos showing how it all went. Pray also for the many young Christian volunteers who helped with the program. Many of them stepped way out of their comfort zones and experienced new dimensions to their faith. Watch the video below to see how two young Japanese Christians’ lives were changed through SHINE.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=42ItlrD\\_cuw&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=42ItlrD_cuw&feature=youtu.be)

**Pray for many full responses to the questionnaire part of OMF’s Church Growth Research Project.** We have written about this before. I, Ralph, am Japan national coordinator for a huge international research project that we hope will yield data on how the churches of Asia are doing, and how we should plan strategy for the future. We have mailed out letters to 500 random churches in Japan. Pray that 100 churches will be willing to participate in the survey.

\*\*\*\*\*

**FINALLY...a personal note.** Miho goes to Sapporo to visit family for 2 weeks starting June 28. Pray for a good visit there, especially with her father, who will be celebrating his 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday while she is there. Pray that Miho does well physically during the trip managing all her various medicines.

**Blessings on y’all’s summer! Love in Jesus!**

**Ralph and Miho**