

# Ralph and Miho Prayer Letter

## June 1, 2016

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Dear Praying Friends,



Miho and I recently gave thanks for **our 27<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary**. We celebrated at a French restaurant near the OMF headquarters, made possible by the nice gift of a generous friend. The attached picture shows us on the night of the celebration. You will have to agree that through the years one of us hasn't changed a bit. (Hint: it isn't me!)

Actually there are some serious matters that need prayer, so we need to ask your help. Recently we have been aware of a new level of personal difficulty that some of the field leaders of OMF Japan are experiencing. One of the leaders was diagnosed with a rare blood cancer, one leader needed urgent surgery, and sons of two different leaders suffered broken bones. Is this a form of the enemy's attacks? **Pray for protection.**



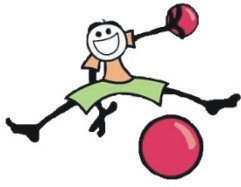
We are thankful for the weeklong street ministry of SHINE Japan. Many of you watched the video link we sent. We were able to work with several short-term teams of young people from various churches around the world to distribute literature on the streets of Tokyo and pray on the spot for people we talked with. It is the sort of ministry that is hard to follow up on as far as which of our street contacts will respond to the Gospel, but we give high thanks and praise for the HUGE evangelization effort. **Pray for continued fruit from the street ministry last week.** The picture shows me reaching out on the streets of Tokyo with 3 Christian friends from Brazil.



Continue to pray for Chapel of Adoration where we are on staff. **Pray that the Chapel will have unity and conviction of God's guidance as they seek for a new pastor. Pray that the new pastor will be found and will be ready to start ministry by spring of 2017.**

During the month of June Miho and I will be doing a good bit of preaching – 4 different churches between the two of us. **Pray for anointed preaching and open hearts in all 4 churches.**

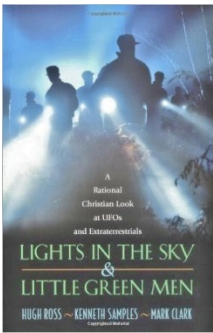
**Pray for our sports ministry.** This is still the most pleasant surprise of this term of service. Our initial steps of asking about outreach at the 2020 Olympics has opened up a whole new world of ministry for us. Miho and I do what we can to network between the Christians in Japan who actually hold sports clinics and the like, and the many pastors and missionaries in the country.



Most recently we heard of a church in Osaka that is having good ministry to children and youth with “**Jesus English Dodgeball**”. It gets far more kids to come to church than the old Sunday School format, and the organizers are careful to give it as much spiritual content as possible. Several kids have believed Jesus Christ, and some are now bringing their parents to church, too; all of which sounds great to us! Miho and I are trying to spread the word of the program to pastors and missionaries. Can Japanese kids be won to Christ through dodgeball? **Pray!**

**Pray for Miho’s leadership of the Ladies Circle at the Chapel.** Later this month they will be hosting a movie event at one of the ladies’ house. The hope is to invite non-Christians to watch the movie “Fireproof” together and then discuss it. **Pray for non-Christians to attend.**

Then later in June we will fly up to Sapporo for OMF’s annual conference for missionaries from all over the country. Miho will lead one of the small groups, and both of us will join the praise and worship team. And of course with Miho’s family there in Sapporo, we will fly up early to spend time with them. There is even a new baby in the family that we have not yet met – the first child, a boy, of one of Miho’s nephews.



Not a prayer request, but...**Ralph recommends...**“**Lights in the Sky and Little Green Men**”. This is a great book about UFO’s and extraterrestrials, written from a Christian perspective. The lead author is one of my own favorites – Dr. Hugh Ross of the University of Toronto. This should be part of everyone’s “arsenal” of apologetics, especially when talking with unbelievers who are interested in these kinds of phenomena. Ross presents a surprising, but totally defensible, explanation of the matter. I just finished it and I am wondering if it can be translated into Japanese.

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**So...**May God bless and direct your summer wherever you may be. Thanks again for your prayers. Let us know how you are doing.

Love in Christ from Japan,

*Ralph and Miho*