



JAPAN PRAYER CALENDAR

FORWARD

Welcome to the Japan Prayer Calendar. We hope you will enjoy using it as you pray for Japan and the Japanese. We also hope you will be encouraged as you read about answers to prayer from the last issue, and see how God is leading people to serve him amongst the Japanese.

The Japanese remain one of the world's least reached peoples. Average attendance at Protestant churches stands at only 0.2% of the population. The challenge in taking the gospel to them therefore remains great. Prayer is vital in this and you can play a highly valuable part in the battle. The Prayer Calendar is divided into three sections – general prayer for Japan and the Japanese, topics related to JCL's work, and a section on our sister organisation, JEB, and the work of the JEB churches. The calendar is designed so that you can use it daily over the course of a month by praying through the items over 30 days as indicated. Alternatively, you could pray through one item a week over the course of a year. We've also added some short prayer points at the back on Japan in general that you could use if time is limited.

Thank you for praying!

“Ask of me and I will make the nations your heritage and the ends of the earth your possession” Psalm 2:8

JAPAN CHRISTIAN LINK'S VISION IS . . .

“To help make a significant difference in the progress of the gospel among the Japanese people over the first half of this century.”

We will seek to do this through educating, encouraging and equipping the Body of Christ, so that, more and more, the good news of Jesus Christ will be proclaimed clearly, and disciples of Jesus Christ multiplied among the Japanese people, for his glory.

(Matthew 28:19-20)

Japanese Society

Japanese society continues to undergo many changes and challenges. Economic downturn is affecting many, especially part-time workers and those in positions not recognised as permanent. Loss of job or status hits men particularly hard and the suicide rate amongst middle-aged men is high.

Pray that these people would find welcome, acceptance and hope through local churches and amongst Christians. Withdrawal from society, especially among young people, remains a big problem. Pressure to succeed and lack of moral support leads them to shut themselves away and withdraw from contact with others. **Pray** for more skilled Christian workers to help them, and for individual Christians to be moved and empowered to reach out to people like this.



The Elderly

Japan has a rapidly ageing society with a low birth rate and many people living well into old age. The imbalance in society is becoming a problem as the country seeks ways to support its ageing population. **Please pray** that churches would be alive to this trend and that they would be seeking to reach the elderly, who have more free time than those of working age. **Pray** that more elderly people would find a home and companionship at church this year.

Japanese Men

Men are significantly under-represented in the Japanese church. Many Christian women have non-Christian husbands. **Pray** that churches would find innovative ways to reach men, whose work is often all-consuming. Pray that wives would be bold, wise and well supported by their churches in witnessing to their husbands. Ask the Lord to continue to bless the work of VIP, an organisation which seeks to reach Japanese business people and meets throughout Japan as well as overseas. **Pray** that Christians would be bolder in sharing their faith with work colleagues and that many more Japanese men would come to Christ this year.

DAY 3

Cities

Japan has many large cities, mostly on the Pacific Ocean side of the country. Around 34 million live in the greater Tokyo-Yokohama-Chiba metropolitan area and the population of Tokyo has continued to increase as people choose to live closer to work in the city. City life can be frenetic and stressful with long working hours, overcrowding and high expectations. Most large churches are in cities - give thanks



for their witness. **Ask** that city folk would not be too busy to stop to think about life, or sidetracked by the many distractions the city offers - night life can be as busy as day life and bars, clubs and restaurants abound - but that they would be drawn to the peace Jesus offers.

DAY 4

Rural Areas



Church access is much more difficult in rural areas than in cities. The nearest church may be a long way away and rural churches are usually very small. Such churches often struggle in engaging with the local community, which tends to be more traditional than in the cities. Buddhist temples have a stronger hold, with locals expected to take part in religious festivals and life. **Please pray** that churches

and individual Christians would be empowered by the Holy Spirit to share their faith with those around them. **Ask** that they would be an effective witness whilst still maintaining good relations with their community. Pray that individual Christians would find good fellowship.

Outreach Overseas

Japanese tend to be far more open to the gospel outside of Japan and away from pressures and duties at home. Please pray for outreach work throughout the UK by various groups and individuals including in Wimbledon, Belfast, Cambridge and Stockport, as well as in those places where JCL partners are working. Ask that British Christians and churches would be alive to the unique opportunities for Japanese to hear the gospel while they are in this country and would give them a warm welcome. **Pray** for several good new partnerships to be formed between JCL and British churches this year to reach Japanese. **Please pray** also for the thousands of Japanese in countries like the US, Australia and New Zealand where they also have more opportunity to meet Christians, and ask that many of them would go home as Christians.



Outreach in Edinburgh

Returnees

A large proportion of Japanese who become Christians do so overseas. When they return home they can face many problems - lack of understanding, opposition from their families, and lack of good Christian fellowship. Churches may be different from what they are used to - perhaps smaller or more conservative - and high expectations may be followed by disappointment. **Pray** for all new Christians returning to Japan this year, that they would hold firmly to their faith and find strong support in Japan. Pray for guidance and good contacts for JCL as we put them in touch with churches and individuals in Japan and seek to encourage and support them. **Ask** for God's blessing on the work of JCFN and DNJ, two Japanese organisations which work to help returnees. **Pray** that throughout the year churches in Japan and overseas would become more aware of the problems faced by returnees, and the need to support them, as a result of the first major conference in Japan in March 2009 focussing on the issue of returnees.

Japanese Churches

Japanese churches vary widely in character, but in general are quite small and often traditional in approach. There can be little contact with the local community, and most Japanese would not feel free to drop in to a service. **Pray** for pastors and church leaders to be open to new ways of engaging with others, such as through coffee shops or children's clubs. **Pray** for church members to see themselves as having important roles in outreach and ministry and to support the pastor well. Some churches run English language classes as part of their outreach. These are easier for non-Christians to join than typical Sunday services. **Please pray** for all teachers of these classes, that their lives would be an effective witness, and that they would be able to communicate the gospel even when they do not speak good Japanese. Ask the Lord to raise up new pastors and church leaders along with the necessary financial support - it can be very difficult finding a successor when pastors retire.



Christmas

Christmas is celebrated in Japan as a festival for children, for giving gifts to loved ones and eating a Japanese version of Christmas cake. Shops are decorated from November, many cities have beautiful lighting displays and Christmas carols are piped into shopping areas. It is an excellent time to share the good news of Jesus. However, it is rare for people to see a crib, to hear the Christmas story or to go to church. **Pray** that many Japanese would question the meaning of Christmas this year and would want to know why we celebrate. Ask that they would stop to listen to the words of the carols and want to know what they are saying. **Pray** for many to attend Christmas concerts run by churches, and for churches to take the good news out to people.

Rebekah Hwang, Finchley



JCL Mission Partner Rebekah Hwang ministers to Japanese in Finchley, north London. **Please pray** for the Bible studies for both men and women that she leads along with her husband Mark, and for the English class and toddlers group. **Ask** that those who attend would clearly hear God speak to them and would respond. Please ask that new enquirers would come. 2008 was a trying year for the family with regularising their young adopted son Michael's immigration status taking a long time, and also having to move house. **Pray** that life would be more peaceful so that they would be able to focus on mission.

Yoshiko Kojima, Milton Keynes - www.geocities.co.jp/rosejaponica05

Mission Partner Yoshiko Kojima leads a Japanese church in Milton Keynes. **Pray** for the church's outreach to the Japanese community including the spring and autumn bazaars, praise services every other month, Wednesday Bible studies and Christmas events. **Ask** for members to recommit themselves this year to reading the Bible and praying daily. Yoshiko is considering holding meetings or Japanese outreach in other areas. **Please pray** for guidance on this, and ask for good health for her and daughter Mami, who will be applying for university places in the UK.



Yuki Williams, Edinburgh - www.edinburgh-japanese-church.co.uk.

Praise the Lord for the many opportunities JCL Mission Partner Yuki has had to share her faith with Japanese in Scotland and northern England. 20-25 people now come to a weekly Japanese church service in Edinburgh. Other outreach in Edinburgh includes regular cookery classes, a mothers & toddlers group meeting twice a month, and occasional special events. Yuki also runs a monthly Japanese Bible study in Newcastle. Thank God for the many willing helpers Yuki has. **Pray** that new mothers would continue to come to the mothers & toddlers group and that they would want to know God. **Please pray** also for opportunities to engage with their husbands. Ask God to continue to guide Yuki as she plans outreach initiatives and that these would be fruitful.



DAY 11

Dawn Bolton, Kobe

Dawn serves as a JCL Mission Partner at the Kobe Mission Hall (see also day 23). Her work includes evangelism, leading services and teaching - both at the Mission Hall and at other churches. **Please pray** that the Lord would continue to help her make progress with her Japanese so that she can teach and counsel more effectively. With many different demands on her time pray also for wisdom in discerning the direction her ministry should take. Finally please **ask** that God would work through the English classes she leads so that those who come would want to know Jesus. Pray especially for those who have been coming for a long time but who have not yet responded to the message of the gospel, that this year they would do so.



DAY 12



Shuko and Michiko Tano, Okinawa

Shuko and Michiko serve as Mission Partners in Nago, Okinawa where they lead a church and run a Christian coffee shop. In 2008 they completed construction of a new building which they plan to use to run a nursery - part of their vision for engaging with the local community. **Please pray** for a smooth application process for the licence to run the nursery, and for other preparations. They hope to open the nursery in 2010. **Pray** also for more committed staff to work in the coffee shop, and for an English conversation teacher to help in outreach work.

DAY 13

Hugh Brown, Kobe

Opportunities to speak to large audiences and give newspaper interviews continue to come Mission Partner Hugh Brown's way. **Please pray** for God's power to sustain him and enable him to minister effectively at each of these occasions. Hugh also serves as chaplain at Kobe prison. Pray that he would be allowed good access to prisoners and that they might be free to speak to him about faith. **Pray** for the prison guards, and especially for the head of the education department who is influential in deciding which prisoners can see Hugh and how often. Hugh also pastors a small church in Nishiharima. Please pray for an assistant worker to help him so that the church may be nurtured and grow.



Ian Maclennan, London

Ian works for the Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ and is a JCL Network Partner. **Please pray** for good contacts and relationships with his Japanese colleagues. Pray that they would be open to hearing the gospel and accepting invitations to Christian events. Pray also that they would find time to do this and not be side-tracked by a busy working life. Ask that Ian would be given wisdom and love to demonstrate a godly lifestyle to them. **Pray** for other Christians around him also to be given the vision to reach out to Japanese.



Tim Williams, London

Tim is the son of Yuki Williams (see day 10) and became a JCL Network Partner in 2008. He works for a Japanese software company in London and supports Japanese church outreach in his spare time. He also helps lead a group called Juicy - Japanese United in Christ, Youth - composed of young Japanese Christians who live in London. The group has been meeting for mutual support and encouragement and together aims to reach other young Japanese. **Pray** that Tim would be effective in evangelism, both among work colleagues and others he meets, and that he would keep his focus on Jesus amidst a busy life. **Ask** that he would know God's guidance on how to use his time and energy over the coming year and beyond.

Richard and Yuko Brash, Tokyo

Network Partners Richard and Yuko moved to Hamura, in the west of Tokyo, in April 2008 where Richard is training at the Japan Bible Seminary to become a pastor in the Japanese church. **Give thanks** for the interdenominational Japan Bible Seminary and its work in preparing God's people for full-time ministry in Japan. Student numbers are small, but the seminary holds firmly to biblical truth. **Pray** for Richard and Yuko's ministry preparation - academic, spiritual and practical. Within the seminary Richard is involved in monthly street evangelism, and other outreach. He preaches at Oppama Bible Church 2-3 times a month, and Yuko helps lead the Sunday School. Pray for long-lasting fruit from this work.



continued on next page

Ken and Yuko Chan, Ikoma

Ken and Yuko are JCL Network Partners and lead Nara International Christian Church in Ikoma near Osaka. Ken also teaches part-time at university. **Ask** the Lord to help them balance church work with university work and raising their three daughters. Pray that Ken will find time to work on his Japanese, and ask for wisdom and grace for both of them in pastoring the church at Ikoma. Please **intercede** for the non-Christian husbands of several women at church, and for other non-Christians in the congregation, that they might be drawn to Christ. **Pray** that church members would be increasingly involved in the work of the church, using their various gifts to contribute to its growth.



DAY 16

Jim and Kayo Davies, Kobe



Network Partners Jim and Kayo have been in Kobe since 2003 as Elim missionaries. Jim teaches English and they run a children's Sunday school and church worship in their home. In 2008 the church celebrated its first baptism. Praise the Lord for this and ask that more Japanese would come to Christ through Jim and Kayo's ministry and that the church would grow. **Please pray** for Kiyomi, who was baptised. She first began to learn about Christianity at Jim's English class. Pray that Kiyomi's husband and three grown-up children would also come to faith. **Ask** the Lord to sustain and encourage the Davies family as it can take a long time for work to bear fruit in Japan. **Pray** for wisdom as they bring up their young son Max, and as they balance church life and other work.

Morien and Yoko James, Ibaraki

JCL Network Partner Morien James runs an English school teaching children and adults and aims to share his faith as he does so. **Praise** the Lord for Simon Clark who joined him in 2008 as a full-time teacher after much prayer for a fellow worker, and pray that Simon would continue to adjust well to Japanese life, showing patience and love to all. Give thanks also that Morien and Yoko were able to move to a new house, where they are now able to run a weekly children's Bible Club. Pray that Morien would be able to communicate effectively in Japanese, that the children would continue coming, and that their parents would also be drawn to Christ. **Pray** too for the twice-monthly Bible study

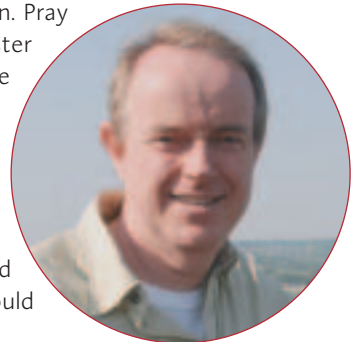


Morien's childrens' Bible Club

classes Morien runs for adults, and for those who attend to come to faith. Christmas and Easter offer good opportunities to talk about Jesus with students. **Pray** that the door would stay open to teach the Christmas and Easter stories clearly at the kindergartens where Morien also teaches.

Peter Jamieson, Aichi

Peter serves as a JCL Network Partner in Chiryu in Aichi prefecture. He attends Anjo Christian Church where he leads a special monthly bilingual service and engages in other outreach work. **Please pray** for the slowly growing contacts with young married couples - that their hearts might be open to the gospel and that they would be responsive to invitations to come to the bilingual services. Aichi is home to many large Japanese companies like Toyota. With the economic downturn many part-time workers are being laid off and full-time workers are seeing their salaries reduced. Family tensions are increasing and the suicide rate is the highest in Japan. Pray that the church in Anjo would be empowered to minister to stressed and depressed people. Praise God for some specific answers to prayer already seen in families. **Pray** that God would use the twice-monthly English classes at Peter's home to open the hearts of those who come to hear about Jesus, and that Peter's Japanese would be sufficient to minister to those around him. Finally, please **pray** for more skilled musicians for the church, and that church members would grow in hospitality.



DAY 19

Akio and Noriko Kawamura, Fujisawa

Akio and Noriko are Network Partners and lead a church in Fujisawa near Yokohama. They also aim to support Christians who return to Japan from overseas. **Give thanks** for the good working relationship they have with American missionaries Mr & Mrs Carlson. They are planning to move their church to a new and expanding area of Fujisawa. **Please pray** that God would lead them to the right location, and for a buyer for their current church land. Noriko is studying to be ordained as a pastor. Pray for her as she undergoes another two years of training, essays and exams at the same time as supporting Akio and their current church ministry. Please also pray for Akio's health and for Noriko's part-time work at the head office of their church's denomination.

DAY 20

Jan-Dirk and Ayako Schmöcker, Tokyo

Jan-Dirk and Ayako became JCL Network Partners in 2008. They live in Tokyo where Jan-Dirk lectures in transport engineering at Tokyo Institute of Technology. **Please pray** for good relationships at work and that God would use Jan-Dirk to speak to his colleagues. Pray for the weekly English Bible study in his workplace. **Ask** also that Jan-Dirk and Ayako would be led to the right ministry at the church they attend and be able to make a meaningful contribution there. Please pray for Ayako's family and Japanese friends, that they would be able to talk openly with them about their faith. Finally, their daughter, Yuriko, was born in 2008. Pray for wisdom in bringing her up and energy and focus for this and their other priorities.



DAY 21

JCL Office, Sevenoaks

Selvan Anketell, Sarah Wooten and Thibaut Laourou at the JCL office develop mission work. They advise and encourage Christians involved in outreach to Japanese, mobilise new mission work and help returnees to Japan hold on to and grow in their faith. The Japanese Christian bookshop they run is a lifeline for many churches and individuals. They also organise conferences for Christians with an interest in Japan and publicise and inform people about the great need for the gospel in Japan. **Pray** that, through their work, more churches and individuals would be mobilised to support or become involved in Japanese outreach. **Pray** for many good contacts with churches in Japan to help returnees mature in their faith.



JEB

Prior to 2000 JCL and JEB were one organisation under the name of JEB. Since then we have operated independently - JCL mainly in the UK and Japan and JEB in Japan - but retain close links. Please pray that the work of JEB would be fruitful and that many Japanese would come to the Lord this year through their ministry. Several JEB church leaders hope to retire soon, so please **ask** God to raise up more labourers to succeed them. **Pray** too for the Kansai Bible College in Kobe, run jointly by the JEB and the NIKK, a related denomination, that it would prepare students well for a life of godly and effective ministry.

Aioi

There are a number of non-Christians at this church who are seriously seeking God. **Please pray** in particular for Mrs Masui, Mrs Taniguchi, Mr Hashimoto, Mr Ishino and Mrs Demizu, that they would come to faith this year. Pray for each believer to become more effective in sharing their faith and building one another up, including through cell group activities, so that the church would grow. **Pray** that each member would see themselves as having an active role to play, and that the work of the Holy Spirit would be apparent in their lives. Pastor Itoigawa suffers from poor eyesight and hopes to be able to retire soon. Pray for a good successor. Please continue to pray for suitable new parking space to become available for the church to make it easier for people to come.



Children at the church Fun Day

Kobe Mission Hall

Praise the Lord for the many new people who come to the weekly evangelistic meetings at the Hall and **pray** for Mr Boku, Ms Ikenoue and Dawn Bolton as they minister to these people, many of whom are quite troubled. Ask for wisdom to be able to balance outreach work with building up existing and new believers. **Pray** for renewed faith amongst existing believers, and unity in the church so that they would minister together to others. Please ask for the Lord to bless the regular Sunday services and to work through the new praise & worship team, the prayer partner scheme and the new women's group.

DAY 24

Inami

Thank the Lord for the many children who attend JCL Mission Partner Dawn Bolton's English class at this church and that more of them are attending the church's Kids Club. Give thanks also for the adults who come to English lessons and pray that they would want to know more about God. Pray for the believers, that they would stand firm in their faith and share it with others. **Ask** that at least one person from Inami town would be saved this year. The house next to the church belongs to the family of a Buddhist priest who complained when the church put up a poster carrying a Bible verse on the wall between them. **Pray** for a restoration of good relations with this family. Finally please pray for good health for Mrs Okamoto, who leads the church, and her husband.



Mrs Okamoto with children from the Kids Club

Kami Iwade

Pray for Ms Hamagaki, who took over leading this church in 2007 after graduating from Bible College. **Please pray** for growth in maturity among the current handful of believers and that they would have good ideas on how to build bridges with the local community and reach them with the gospel. Ms Hamagaki teaches English to local children but, so far, their families have not shown interest in Christianity. **Pray** that during the year the church will be able to organise events that appeal to local residents and that several would want to investigate the gospel message.

DAY 25

Kamigori

Please pray for health, wisdom and energy for Ms Tominaga who leads this church - both in church life and in representing the church in the local community. **Pray** that the monthly study group on leading a full life will be fruitful. Please pray for church members who suffer from illness and other problems - that the church would be able to support them well and that they would take comfort in their faith.



Nagao

Led by Mr and Mrs Kawamura, Nagao Church's vision is to be a church of revival - to see revival in the lives of each church member spreading to the town and throughout Japan and the world. Please pray for this. **Pray** too for the church school attended by a small number of children who combine church schooling with home schooling. Last year Nagao church planted a new church near Takamatsu (see day 29). **Pray** that the new church would become financially independent and that there would be further opportunities for new church plants.

Nagusa

Give thanks to God that Mr and Mrs Miyake have been able to settle in as church leaders and readjust to Japanese life having spent a long time overseas. Praise him for slow but



steady growth in the church over the last year.

Please pray that new believers, including Mr Nishimoto and Ms Ami, would grow strong in faith. Pray that the Lord would continue to bring more people to him in Nagusa.

Nagusa church

Shido

Shido Church is in northern Shikoku Island and has been led by Ms Ishida for many years. Each Wednesday thirteen children come to a children's club. Many of their mothers attended this club before them. **Pray** that both parents and children would also want to come to church, and for continued good relations between them and the church. **Pray** for the salvation of non-Christian church attendees including Mr Miyake, whose father was a Christian, and Ms Oda, who used to come to the Wednesday children's club as a child and has recently gone through a difficult divorce. Please also pray for sufficient financial provision for the church's needs.

Shioya

Please **pray** for revival in this church led by Mr Nakajima, assisted by evangelist Mr Takagi. Pray for the spiritual growth of the young people and for a renewal of faith amongst older members, and that each person would be an effective witnesses in their homes and workplaces so that others would come to Christ. In 2009 the church celebrates the thirtieth anniversary of the dedication of its church building. Pray for the evangelistic concert they will hold to mark this on 18 October, and that many non-



Christians would come. **Ask** for continued blessing on the Momoyamadai church gathering which has been meeting for a couple of years now.

The Shioya church family with two JCL volunteers on a summer mission

continued on next page

Shirakawadai

The Shirakawadai Church, led by Mr Komurasaki, and other churches in the area will be supporting the “Kobe Love Sonata”, a major evangelistic event in the city of Kobe in April 2009. Please **pray** that many people would come, for good follow-up throughout the year and that it would lead to revival in the Kobe area. Mr Komurasaki also serves as Chairman of JEB so please pray for him to be able to balance both duties well and to follow God’s leading in all he does.

Oasa

Praise God for five cell groups drawing in new people. Pray for recent believers to grow in their faith. Pray for young people who come regularly but who are not yet clearly saved.

DAY 28

Shiratori

Please **pray** for the spiritual growth of church members, that they would be filled with the Holy Spirit and be fruitful. Pray also for more people to come who are genuinely seeking to know God and that these people would be saved. Please include in this Mr Mori, who is not yet a Christian but attends church. Please **pray** for a pastor to succeed Ms Tsuchihara and for more dedicated church helpers and workers. Give thanks for Mr Matsumura, who is preparing to go into Christian service.

Wajiki

Wajiki is in a mountainous rural area of Japan. **Please pray** for the church’s outreach work, especially in the Naka-cho area, that more people in this devoutly Buddhist region would come to Christ. **Pray** too for pastor Kiyohara’s prison outreach work, for the spiritual growth of those prisoners who have become Christians, and for the prison authorities to continue to allow him access. Mr Kiyohara hopes to retire soon, but this is dependent on finding a successor - please pray for the right person.

Arita

Pray for a permanent meeting place for the church and that the Community Hall will remain available for present evangelistic outreach. Arita is a spiritually hard area and constant prayer is needed to see new seekers coming to church.

Takamatsu - www.hallelujahchurch.net

This new church was planted by the Nagao church in 2008. Please **pray** for its spiritual growth. The church is developing an international character and three people from the Philippines and two from Brazil were baptised there in 2008. Pray that many more would be saved and become disciples of Christ. Please **pray too** that the church would become financially stable. The church is home to Hallelujah Music gospel band, led by Tepei Yamakawa, who is also the church's pastor. The band is becoming increasingly recognised throughout Japan and has released five CDs and taken part in concerts in other parts of the country. Pray for band members to be used to bring revival. **Praise** the Lord for the children's summer camp the church ran for the first time in 2008, helped by two JCL volunteers. Many non-Christian children came and accepted Jesus. Pray for future outreach including gospel music workshops and a Christmas concert.

Hallelujah Music playing live



Tsuda - <http://www.ovmcnet.com/>

Thank God for growth in Create International Christian School, run by the church, which has grown in size with new teachers and pupils joining over the last year. The church has just purchased a piece of land next to the church school with the aim of expanding the school and also outreach. **Please pray** for guidance in how best to use it. Pray for the Church Planting Training Centre, which runs classes for leaders of cell groups within the church, that many people will be equipped for service. The church is very outward-looking. Pray for many good opportunities to engage with the community around them. Tsuda church has been involved in setting up a small Japanese congregation in Finland whose members will be responsible for organising the European Japanese Christian Conference in August 2009. Pray that this would go really well.

PRAYERS IN BRIEF

If you have only a little time to pray each day here are a few quick prayer points you could use to pray for Japan.

Mondays

Japanese Men - Japanese men are under-represented in the church. Pray that more would become Christians, especially those whose wives are already Christians. Pray also that Christians would be bold in sharing their faith at work.

Tuesdays

Christian Schools & English Teachers - pray that Christian schools would maintain a distinctive witness and for Christians to be drawn into service as teachers. Pray for all Christian English teachers, such as those on the Japanese government-sponsored JET programme teaching in state schools, to be able to share their faith.

Wednesdays

Returnees - For new Christians returning to Japan from overseas, pray that they would find people to encourage them and help them grow in their faith, and that returnees would bring growth to the Japanese church.

Thursdays

Prison Work - pray for the small number of Christian prison chaplains, for good access to prisoners and freedom to talk about Jesus. Pray that the changed lives of Christian prisoners would be a compelling witness to many.

Fridays

Young People & Children's Work - Ask that many young people's lives would be transformed by Jesus through the work of organisations like Campus Crusade, the Navigators, KGK and YWAM. Pray that non-Christian parents would have a positive attitude towards church clubs and activities and that children's outreach would have lasting results.

Weekends

Japanese Churches - Pray for love and unity to characterise churches, for new leaders to come forward and for good, mutually-supportive relationships between pastors and church members. Ask that churches would appear welcoming rather than daunting to newcomers.

JCL – Who are we?

We were founded as the Japan Evangelistic Band (JEB) in 1903. Since then, through God's grace JEB's work has led to the establishment of over 150 churches and the Kansai Bible College in Kobe, Japan. In 1999 we caught a renewed vision and evolved into our current shape, adopting the new name of **Japan Christian Link**. The work in Japan is now directed independently by our Japanese colleagues (still known as JEB), supported by some JCL Mission Partners. From the UK we build outreach to Japanese in the UK and elsewhere and lend some support to the work in Japan. We are **interdenominational**, with many of the main Christian traditions represented. We are **international** with workers from several different countries including Japan itself. We are also **inclusive**, seeking to work with other missions as well as developing our own work. Our work is carried out by a mixture of conventional missionaries, "tent-maker" missionaries and part-time volunteers.

Literature, Opportunities & Information

Do get in touch with us if you are interested in:

Getting involved in work among Japanese. In the UK, Japan or elsewhere you could be part of a diverse network of evangelical Christians, united by a vision for reaching the Japanese with the powerful message of Christ's love.

Obtaining **Japanese Christian literature** - our bookshop stocks Japanese materials for outreach and discipleship such as Japanese Bibles, bilingual Bible studies and books on Christianity, as well as English books relevant to understanding Japan and the Japanese. Our book list can also be accessed via our website at www.jclglobal.org

Information on **churches, Bible studies or Christian contacts in Japan** for someone returning there.

Information about **JCL Conferences** which bring together Christians with an interest in Japan and the Japanese.

Information on **short-term mission** opportunities.

Receiving our **JCL News** magazine, our regular **Praise & Prayer** news letter or the **prayer letters** of one or more JCL Mission Partners.

Supporting JCL's ministry financially.

Further information on all of this, and other news and forthcoming events, is available on the JCL website at www.jclglobal.org

Japan Christian Link

Director: Selvan Anketell
Communications Manager: Sarah Wooten

UK Office & Literature Centre

Japan Christian Link,
PO Box 68,
Sevenoaks,
Kent,
TN13 2ZY.

Tel: 01732 455453

E mail: info@jclglobal.org

Web: www.jclglobal.org

UK Registered Charity no. 213834

Japan

32-15, 6 Chome,
Shioya Cho, Tarumi Ku,
Kobe 655-0872

USA

PO Box 33201,
Seattle, Washington 98133

Australia

Suite 316,
51 Robina Town Centre, Robina,
Queensland 4230

Photograph for Day 1: Courtesy of OMF
© Japan Christian Link, 2009

Design: David Priest

Printed using recycled paper Print: Printlogic