Plot twist. June 2020

Dear Pastors, Friends, and Faithful Supporters,

It seems that every time we write, there is another plot twist. This letter is no exception. Here in Niigata, Japan we are facing changes in the church plant, circumstances regarding COVID-19, and Rosie's language school.

Toward the end of May, the **Hill family needed to leave** for the U.S. Brother Hill's mother was about to undergo major surgery, and they felt it would be best to be in the US for the operation. Because of this, **we are currently looking after the church plant** in their absence. We did not expect this, but we are grateful for the chance to gain even more experience in church planting work.

Japan currently has its **borders closed** to most nations. Also, Japan set a new record for the fewest number of visitors to the country since 1964. Because the borders are currently closed to most nations, we are not certain whether the Hill family can come back in <u>1 month or 3 months or longer</u>. **Please pray for their family** as they continue to navigate this time with his mother's surgery. Additionally, **please pray for us** as the number of responsibilities have dramatically increased and we learn a new weekly rhythm.

Today was the first day Rosie was able to physically go **back to school**. The government stopped the nationwide state of emergency and public schools have resumed. Currently Rosie is scheduled to go to school in person every few days. Lord willing, her regular classes will resume shortly.

Both Amos and Silas continue to grow up before our eyes. We are amazed (and at times overwhelmed) at how quickly they are growing. Amos is just two months old but already picking up his head and looking around. Silas remains a handful.

Japan is still closed to the outside, we are grateful that things are beginning to open up on the inside. This means we can cautiously proceed with doing more **outreach events**. James 1:5 says, "if any man lack wisdom, let him ask of God." We definitely need wisdom during this time! As we pray for wisdom, will you **pray with us**? Please pray for the Lord to grant us wisdom in working through this time to be able to reach more people with the Gospel.

Yours for Japan, The Miyashita Family

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