



Catching Covid

May 2022

Dear Pastors, Friends, and Faithful Supporters,

At the end of April/Beginning of May, Japan entered **golden week**. This year two weekends and three holidays aligned. If people took off work on a Monday and Friday, they would have had **10 consecutive days off** (Saturday through the following Sunday).

While we didn't do any major church events for golden week, **a 21-year-old named Yuuji** did come spend time with us for a couple days. He is a college student that I (James) met at a nearby university, and he came over since he was off from school. **I invited him to our church, and he attended with us that Sunday.**

Unfortunately, both Rosie and I started feeling sick the following day and **our whole family tested positive for COVID.** After getting the results, I contacted everyone who had come to church to let them know. Rosie and I had the worst symptoms with body aches, fevers, and headaches for about 5 days. Fortunately, nobody else from church got sick. Since we had been running double digits in attendance for 4 weeks straight, we were glad that an outbreak didn't happen right in front of us and create negative publicity for the church plant.

We were concerned about what would happen to our relationship with our young friend especially if he got sick and missed school. Thankfully, he didn't get sick either and we are staying in touch. As our family started recovering, Yuuji and I were on a video call when he started asking some questions about the Bible. We ended up having an **impromptu Bible study for about an hour and a half** even though our family was still in isolation.

Please pray with us for our young friend as well as others who have come to the church who need to get saved.

As we continue moving forward, we praise the Lord for the people he has been allowing us to spend time with and for the opportunities to share the Gospel. Please continue to pray for us to have wisdom as we work here in Nagoya!

Yours for Japan,
The Miyashita Family



The Sunday before we got sick with COVID



New Family Photo



One of the meals delivered to us from the city while we were sick with COVID

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Dear Pastors, Friends, and Faithful Supporters,

We hope this letter finds you well in the Lord. Thank you for faithful prayers and financial partnership.

Recently, we were made aware of some internal changes that occurred with our mission board over the last few years and wanted to provide an update about the changes.

For several years, Vision Baptist Missions was a local church ministry of Vision Baptist Church. While the mission board possessed its own non-profit status (primarily for legal purposes), it functioned under the authority of the church. Our former pastor was also the president of the mission board at the time, so there was some overlap between the church and the mission board.

However, sometime over the last several years Vision Baptist Missions separated from the church both legally and formally. Although those who presently hold leadership positions are members of the church, the mission and church are now separate, and Vision Baptist Missions is no longer under the authority of Vision Baptist Church.

Only recently was our family informed about the change in structure and that the mission board is no longer under the church. Realizing that some churches do not partner with mission agencies that are not directly under a church, we wanted to be forthright in communicating the changes in the board's relationship with our sending church.

If you have any questions, I would love to set up a time to speak with you. Because of the 13-hour time difference, it would be extremely helpful if you could send me an email (james@reachingjapan.com) to schedule a time to talk.

We are currently thinking through and praying about what to do given the change in authority, administration, as well as other policies, and will inform you about changes as they happen. Please pray for wisdom and discernment.

We look forward to continued partnership to further the Gospel with those who are able. Thank you for enabling us to do the work of the ministry here in Japan.

Yours for Japan,

James Miyashita
James Miyashita

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