



Dear Pastors, Friends, and Prayer Partners,

August 2026

“Can you give me the abbreviated version?”

While jogging with a group for a weeknight run, a man in his thirties and I started to talk. When I shared that my job is teaching the Bible, his next words caught me off guard: “I’m interested. Can you give me the abbreviated version of what you guys believe?”

People here often do not express spiritual interest so directly, especially to someone they just met. I took the opportunity to share the Gospel with him as we ran down the city sidewalk.

When I invited him to church, he followed up with: “**Is it okay for someone like me who doesn’t believe anything to come to church?**” The idea of church is so foreign here that most people do not know it’s okay to just show up for a service.

The next Sunday, **he came to church for the first time in his life.** We have met up a few times since. His questions show how unfamiliar he is with Christianity. For example, he was curious about how a small church like ours operates. What is the motive? Is there some kind of catch? I explained that Christians give because they want people in Japan to hear about Jesus. In other words, part of the answer was **you!**

He still says he does not believe in God but other questions like “how do you get to the point where you believe” reveal something deeper going on in his heart.

Last month, we asked you to pray for several summer outreach efforts. Thank you for praying! Our **English & Life Talks** brought in two first-time participants in August, and four people are already signed up for our September gathering. Our summer family events also gave us more time to interact with parents and children. Four families joined our first LEGO play day, while five different families attended our Book & Board event. A couple of those families then signed up for our regular monthly Kids Club.

Thank you again for standing with us. We are grateful to be here, meeting people, building relationships, and watching God open doors one conversation at a time. Has God given you any opportunities for good Gospel conversations lately? We’d love to hear about them. Please write back and let us know!

Yours for Japan,
The Miyashita Family



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