

Mahon Lithuania - Belarus - Ukraine - Russia - **Japan** Dispatch #16 05.10.10

Messages of the week:

Sound Doctrine The Responsibility of Every Minister - Part 1

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In this dispatch...

- I. Fruit That Lasts
- II. Ministry In Utsunomiya
- III. On To Shizuoka
- IV. Prayer Requests: As you pray please allow the accompanying passage from the Word of God to guide your prayers

*John 15:7 "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you."*

A. Lasting Fruit

*John 15:16 " You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you.*

B. Power Of Our God and Father

*Psalms 2:4-7 He who sits in the heavens laughs , The Lord scoffs at them. Then He will speak to them in His anger And terrify them in His fury, saying, "But as for Me, I have installed My King Upon Zion, My holy mountain. I will surely tell of the decree of the LORD: He said to Me, 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.*

C. Power Of The Gospel Of Our Risen Savior

*1 John 4:4 You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.*

*John 12:32 "And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself."*

D. Power Of The Holy Spirit

*John 16:7-8 But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment;*

#### **E. Power Of The Word**

*Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.*

(If a picture does not appear – first double click on the box, then if that does not work, right click on the box. Sometimes, when an e-mail contains a number of pictures, your e-mail program will require you to manually open some of them.)

Dear Prayer Warriors,

Visiting Japan once again has been a real heart warming experience. This ministry trip is proof positive of Christ's words in *John 15:16 " You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you."*

#### **Fruit That Lasts**



Pictured above is my long time friend Shinichi Iimura. As a young Christian Shinichi and I met for daily quiet times alone with God in the dormitory before going for breakfast together as students at the University of Texas. That was back in 1973. That was 37 years ago. Shinichi and I have prayed for each other ever since those days. He has visited in our home many times as we have his and his children call me "Uncle John". His wife plays the piano in the Baptist Church and Shinichi served as a

translator during the Billy Graham Crusade. Here I stand with Shinichi in the central office area of his company.



What a wonderful time we shared in fellowship and the Word. One of the highlights of our visit was to have a quiet time together at the breakfast table in his home, just like we used to do 37 years ago. Shinichi and his wife Sakato are two of the most loving and humble Christians you will meet and it was a joy and privilege to time with them in this wonderful country.



Pictured above is Kenjie Kaneko. I met Kenjie as he got off the plane in the US and he greeted me saying, "I am just fresh Christian". It was indeed true, Kenjie had just received Christ a few days earlier. It was a joy to see Kenjie grow as he studied the Bible, developed the discipline of personal Quiet Times and shared wonderful fellowship together in our home at Texas A & M University. That was back in 1978, some 32 years ago. Since then Kenjie has been in our home as we have in his. He has a godly wife Masako, who loves the Lord and serves Him faithfully. Together they

served on Navigator Staff in the student ministry. Kenjie is now active in his church in the worship ministry (see below)



What a joy it was to spend time with Kenjie and Masako in the Word of God, fellowshiping, in prayer and in remembrance of days past. What a joy to see their faithfulness to the church, the Word of God and the Lord.



**Ministry In Utsunomiya**



It was my privilege to preach in Kenjie and Masako's church on Sunday and to worship together with them.



Here I renewed my fellowship with Pastor Goro and what a privilege this was. Pastor Goro first met my brother Rob back in the 70's. Pastor Goro reminded me that my brother Rob was the first Navigator missionary to Utsunomiya and that his fruit has lasted.

During our time in Utsunomiya we were able as well to minister to missionary families one on one in their homes...



This is not an uncommon experience for us here in Japan and it is a privilege to minister the Word of God in the areas of marriage and family to these faithful and sacrificial saints.

### **On To Shizuoka**



After a week of ministry in Utsunomiya it is on the Shizuoka to be with Brian and Margery VanZante. We took the high speed bullet train. It was a great privilege to pray for Japan as we passed by Mt. Fuji. I will always be indebted to Brian and Margery for the ministry they had in the lives of my children. I continue to be impressed with the depth and breadth of their ministry. If you have been thinking of investing financially or in prayer in an Asian country, let me strongly and without reservations place Brain and Margery VanZante before you for your prayerful consideration. You may contact them at [mbvanzante@yahoo.com](mailto:mbvanzante@yahoo.com)

We are in the middle now of our ministry here in Shizuoka and you will receive shortly a report on your answered prayers and the fruit of your gifts. How I praise God for your co-laborship with us here in Japan.

I close this email as always with a deep and abiding thankfulness for your sacrificial and effectual prayers which empower and drive this ministry ever forward in the cause of Christ.

By His mercy,

II Corinthians 4:1

Rev. John S. Mahon

Grace Community Int. - Ministering the eternal, inerrant, holy, written Word of God in Japan

Please allow me to close with dispatch with a hymn from my prayer notebook that has been especially meaningful to me...

*(Psalms 104:33-34 "I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being. Let my meditation be pleasing to Him; As for me, I shall be glad in the LORD.")*

**Softly And Tenderly**

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling

Calling for you and for me

Patiently Jesus is waiting and watching

Watching for you and for me

*Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading*

*Pleading for you and for me*

*Why should we linger and heed not His mercies*

*Mercies for you and for me*

Oh for the wonderful love He has promised

Promised for you and for me

Though we have sinned He has mercy and pardon

Pardon for you and for me

*Come home come home*

*Ye who are weary come home*

*Earnestly tenderly Jesus is calling*

*Calling O sinner come home*

(William Thompson Born: November 7, 1847, East Liverpool, Ohio; Died: September 20, 1909, New York, New York. Both a lyricist and composer, he ensured he would always remember words or melodies that came to him at odd times: “No matter where I am, at home or hotel, at the store or traveling, if an idea or theme comes to me that I deem worthy of a song, I jot it down in verse. In this way I never lose it.” When the world-renowned lay preacher, Dwight Lyman Moody, lay on his death bed in his Northfield, Massachusetts, home, Will Thompson made a special visit to inquire as to his condition. The attending physician refused to admit him to the sickroom, and Moody heard them talking just outside the bedroom door. Recognizing Thompson’s voice, he called for him to come to his bedside. Taking the Ohio poet-composer by the hand, the dying evangelist said, “Will, I would rather have written “Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling” than anything I have been able to do in my whole life.”)