



# the McCown family

**BBFI MISSIONARIES TO JAPAN**  
EVANGELIZING • DISCIPLING • CHURCH PLANTING

## THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE FRONT IN FAR EAST ASIA

**AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2019**

LANGUAGE LEARNING AND MINISTRY IN JAPAN

One of the things we enjoy about life here is that during weekday mornings we attend language school to improve our Japanese ability. This past week a lesson was about Japanese folk religion. We were taught people interact with spirits by going to a shrine to pray for their desires. Things like good grades, money, health, love, career success, etc.

The class was encouraged to write down their wishes on a paper made to resemble an object used in this religion. Tim and I are the only Christians in our class. We explained that we did not desire to participate because we are Christians. We are thankful that the teacher asked the class what they do spiritually when they want something. We learned some religious beliefs of our classmates. Tim and I had recently taught on Sunday about God being our creator and king. God had prepared us to speak about this in Japanese. We explained in Japanese that because God is our creator and king, when Christians pray, we submit our desires to His desires. This was surprising for some, to think that God who created everything is sovereign over us and we are morally responsible to him, instead of a god created by men to do their will. We also explained that we don't go to a religious site to pray because God is always with us. It encourages us how frequently the Lord prepares us and then gives us opportunities outside of our weekly scheduled services to point people to Christ in natural situations, sometimes with prolonged gospel conversations. Many of the people we have these conversations with tell us it is their first time to ever have anyone explain Christianity to them. Please join us in praying that the Holy Spirit would give them understanding of the gospel message and that many people from all nations would repent of their sin, trust in the finished work of Jesus, and begin to follow him.

Today is the day of salvation. We don't want these dear people to suffer an eternity apart from Christ's mercy and grace. Additionally, every Sunday we are continuing to meet to teach Christ to a group of Japanese families, sing hymns and psalms, pray, and eat together. It is our prayer that Christ would build his church for his glory in this area. Thank you for your prayers.

Stay Christ-centered, friends!



Timothy, Jenelle,  
Simon, Isaac, Elisha, & Phoebe



Our Language School Friends



Meeting to teach Christ and him crucified

### HOW TO DONATE

The McCown Family to Japan  
Baptist Bible Fellowship Intl  
PO Box 191  
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[www.reachjapan.org/donate](http://www.reachjapan.org/donate)

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