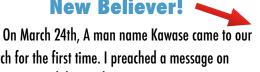
# **Church is Growing! New Believer!**

#### **New Believer!**



church for the first time. I preached a message on redemption and during the invitation Kawase responded. While I finished up the service, James Miyashita talked with him. Praise the Lord Kawase accepted Christ as his Savior!

It turns out that Kawase had gone to our friend, Mike Burgett's church years ago and heard the Gospel many times, but had never accepted Christ! Some plant, some water, but God gives the increase!

## The Miyashita Family

James and Rosie Miyashita, who are missionaries out of our same mission board, have been working with us since January. In addition to leading Kawase to the Lord, James has been an incredible help to us by leading music, preaching our Sunday night service, helping correct my Japanese and much, much more. Rosie will be begin language school in April, but she has already brought in some visitors to church! The Miyashitas are a great blessing to us, and we hope that you will pray for them as they work with us for the next 2 years. Learn more about them at: reachingjapan.com.

#### **Church Growth**

God has been doing a great work here! In addition to lost people coming to church, several Christians that didn't have a church before are attending. An older lady name Aiko, responded during the invitation, and she told us she wanted to be a part of the church.

A Brazilian Man named Tiago has been coming with his Japanese wife, Naoko. Tiago has been saved for several years, but his wife has yet to believe. Tiago asked us to pray that his wife would accept Christ.

It has been apparent that God is especially working on Yuko and Watanabe. They have been coming since the start of the church, and have asked many questions about becoming a Christian. Please pray for their salvation.

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# **White Day Event**

On March 14th, in Japan there is a holiday similar to Valentines Day. We did a special event on that day and preached the Gospel. In all, 31 people came, 10 of which were first time visitors.

Since that time, 4 of those first time visitors have come to other services.

### **Devils of Buddhism Fighting Back**

The strong hold that buddhism has on Japan has really been rearing it's ugly head lately. Several people that I have been witnessing to for a while (including Sean and Yuki), are clinging to Buddhism and rejecting Jesus. They would gladly add Christ to their gods, but when I tell them that it's either Christ alone or not at all they are offended by the Gospel. It is truly hard to watch.

Recently a man name Hirano called me, and said he received a flyer from our church (we've given out over 60,000) and was interested in hearing more. He wanted to meet at a mall on the other side of town. James and I went to meet him. Rather than going inside the mall he wanted us to follow him to a building nearby. It turned out he was lying and it was a buddhist group that wanted to debate and prove to us we were wrong. So we preached the Gospel and as we did they were full of hate! After we preached the Gospel, we left.

The Gospel is making a difference here, and the devil doesn't like it. He is trying everything he can to stop the work of God. Please keep us in your prayers and especially those that have heard but are rejecting God!



Hill Family

White Day Event





James Leading Music



5 story tall Buddha Statue in downtown Niigata



#### **Prayer Requests**

- 1. Bible Basics Message Series
- 2. Sean's salvation and cancer
- 3. Salvation of: Yuki, Ueno, Satou, Kamegai, Yuko, Hasegawa, Sakata, Watanabe, Takashi, Yuen, Matsuki, Kawasaki, Koide, Chouko, Hisami, Hayashi, Momo, and Fumiko.