

# God Is Greater Than Our Problems



## Told To Move Out

It's been an interesting month here. We've had some rough spots, but God always proves He's working even when it doesn't make sense to us!

**In the last week of June our landlord informed us that he wants to sell the house and we have to move out by August 6th.** Our contract states we are supposed to be notified 6 months prior to such a situation, but we were given about a month to find a new place and move.

We were planning to live in Nagaoka, and commute to Niigata (for the new church plant) until Rebel has the baby in late October. This is mainly because here in Japan you typically need to reserve a hospital room a few months prior to having a baby. We of course reserved a room for Rebel and the baby back in March. Now the deadline has passed, and several of our friends are worried we won't be able to get into a hospital in Niigata (as space is limited).

Atlas and Journey are also in the middle of their school year at Kindergarten (Japan starts school in April and ends in March). As such finding another kindergarten midyear with such short notice is difficult.

We explained all this to our landlord and his new realtor (the old realtor has been trying to help us), but were met with the word しょうがない (shouganai). Which means "It can't be helped."

To be honest this was hard to swallow. As Rebel is standing there pregnant, this man and his realtor were telling us that it didn't matter. We were kind, but afterwards I struggled with bitterness. I prayed a lot, asking God for help, and as always, He did.

He reminded me the people that I'm dealing with are lost. If nothing changes they will spend eternity separated from God. It's amazing how small our problems become in light of eternity. I was reminded, I have no rights. I was bought with a price, and I am to serve my King. My bitterness turned to love and concern for their souls.

## One Door Closes Another Opens

God always provides! Even though there were few rental homes available when we searched in early July, God provided a place for us to buy! We got an incredible deal on a house, and with help from family, I was able to secure a loan. The payments are about the same as what we were paying for rent! It was difficult to move enough money by the end of August, but God also provided a way through our friends in the ministry in Japan. On July 29th, we purchased the home, and Lord willing, we will be moved by August 6th. God provided in other ways too, but there are too many to mention here.

**From all this, there have already been two huge blessings. First)** Owning property in Japan makes it much easier to rent a church building! **Second)** The realtor that helped us with the home purchase has been incredibly helpful in finding another great option! From the start, we've had trouble finding a realtor that would help us as a church. We were told many times it would be difficult or that the owners didn't want to rent to a church. In our last letter I mentioned a building a friend of a friend owned and we were negotiating rent. That building didn't work out as they were above our budget, and weren't able to come down on the price.

However since meeting this new realtor, they have brought many options, and we have found a great deal on a place (pictured below) with plenty of parking (not common here). The realtor spoke with the owner and they were ok with renting to a church. **We have scheduled a meeting with the owner on August 10th to discuss renting their building for the church plant.**

## Hospital and Kindergarten

As I mentioned earlier, we have to find another hospital for Rebel to have the baby and another kindergarten for the kids. The Lord has also provided in both these areas, and we are in the process of getting the kids transferred as well as a hospital for Rebel. Please pray these work out soon! Thank you for all your prayers!

Hill Family  
JAPAN

## Prayer Request Updates

1. Meeting with owner of a new building on 8/10.
2. Hospital room for Rebel and Baby, and healthy delivery.
3. We got the 5 year extension on our visas! Praise the Lord!
4. Our lost friend, Sean went through cancer treatment at the end of July. We don't know all the results of the treatment yet, but it's not looking good. It also seems he is turning away from considering the Gospel and going back to buddhism. This has been incredibly hard to watch. I have been very clear with him about the Gospel, and sharing that Jesus is the one and only way! Please pray for him to be saved before it is too late!



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