

Our Time in Japan!

January, February,
March 2011



Isaiah 52:7

那報佳音、傳平安、報好信、傳救恩的、對錫安說、你的神作王了。

Isaiah 52:7

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!

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HONG KONG SAR

Beautiful Feet Ministries

YES! We did feel the earthquake.

Every time we have gone to Japan in the past, Craig has wanted to feel an earthquake and has been disappointed that we didn't even have a little one. I was very happy not to have had any.

But this time we are just happy to have returned to Hong Kong alive and to know that New Life League is still there, printing Bibles.

Two days before the 9.0 Sendai quake there was a 7.2, and we thought that was "THE BIG ONE". We thought anything we would feel after that would be smaller.

I was on the phone with my mother when the 7.2 hit. I didn't even realize that we were having an earthquake until Craig said "Are we having an earthquake?". As soon as he said that, I felt it, and I told mom that we were having an earthquake. Then we started to run out the door, but by then the building had stopped shaking.

That one was big enough that Craig was happy that he had felt an earthquake, no one had been hurt, and no damage had been done. I was shaky and could sense the after shocks coming even before you could feel them. Craig thought it was all in my head, until I would say I think we're having another earthquake. Sure enough, we would have another one.

This went on for two days, and on Friday afternoon we were reading and I said "We're having another one." and Craig was about to

say "No we're not." when the building started to shake violently.

The only thought in either of our heads was get out side! So we climbed out the window and on to the balcony but there was no way down and we were on the third floor. So we just stood there hanging on to the railing, looking down on the people that had exited the building and were on the ground.

They kept telling us to come down, but at the time we didn't know where to go, and the building was swaying so much that we couldn't walk if we had known where to go.

Psalm 46:1-3

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling. Selah

You hear that in times like this your life flashes before your eyes, mine did not. The only thing I could think was "I wonder what it would be like to be on the ground and see two people fall to their death right before your eyes." and "What are the odds that as the building is falling that we could jump off and land safely?"

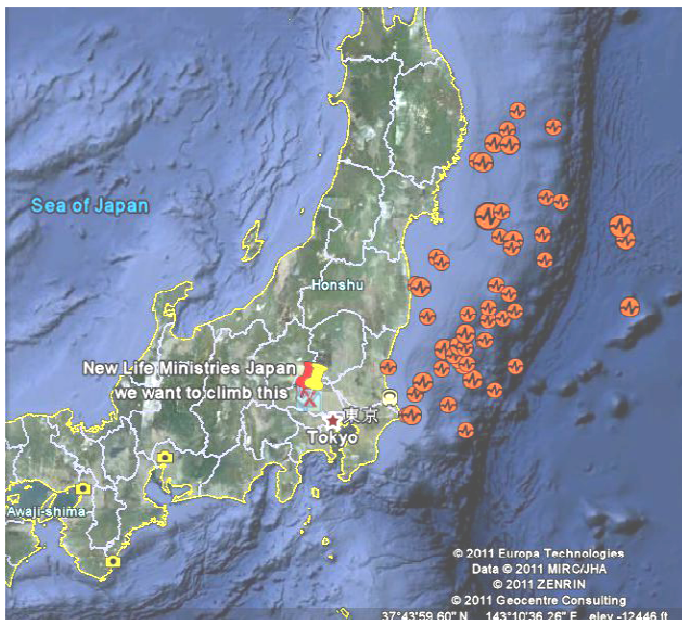
The shaking lasted for close to five minutes. When we went back

inside lots of things had fallen to the floor, some had broken and others that should have broken were not even damaged. Looking back I think it was a picture of God's care for us and how He holds things together. No one had been injured at the press, the building was not any the worse for ware and the only damage was some book shelves that had broken or fallen over and the suspended ceiling had fallen in some rooms.

Praise the Lord for His Loving Kindness!

You can see pictures we took at

<http://www.boxtracker.net/earthquake>



Sendai Quake and aftershocks larger than 5.0 the evening of March 11, 2011.

After thoughts!

It is hard after going through something like this. At the time you are in the moment but after words your brain kicks in and tries to make sense of it all.

It was, and continues to be a hard time of soul searching. God tested my faith every time there was an aftershock, I found that even for Christians facing death is a hard thing. I was in terror every time an aftershock hit and there were so many that the building was in a content state

of trembling although it would only sway when the shocks were harder than 5.0. A lot of them were. Craig and I both became sea sick from the motion and we had to put a jug of water on the floor so we could see if the building was actually moving or if it was just us, because our bodies would involuntarily tremble and shake just from the shock of having gone through the earthquake.

My mind was in an equal state of terrors,

Nahum 1:4-7

He rebukes the sea and makes it dry; he dries up all the rivers; Bashan and Carmel wither; the bloom of Lebanon withers. The mountains before him; the hills melt; the earth heaves before him, the world and all who dwell in it. Who can stand before his indignation? Who can endure the heat of his anger? His wrath is poured out like fire, and the rocks are broken into pieces by him.

The LORD is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; he knows those who take refuge in him.

with questions like, "Is my faith so small that I don't feel safe in God's hands?" and "God let all those people die so what's stopping Him from having an other earthquake that we'll die in?" I was ashamed of the thoughts I was having and that I was thinking of my safety and not of helping the people in the disaster hit regions of Japan.

Do to the power plants that were knocked out from the tsunami, we were having rolling blackouts, so it became difficult for Craig to continue writing software. There was nothing we could do to be of help. We don't speak Japanese,

Luke 13:4-5

Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish."

and we had no other work in Japan than writing software, so we got an early flight home on the 16th of March.

So now what are we doing? Craig is continuing to write software, while we wait for our China visa's. New life in Japan is continuing to print Bibles amid rolling blackouts, aftershocks and the continued threat of radiation spreading from the Fukushima reactors in the north. Please pray for our Japanese friends.

Japan is very much closed to the Gospel, only about 1 percent of the population are Christians. Though people are living well by most standards, they are alone, and their life to them seems meaningless. One hundred people in Japan commit suicide every day. But even with the hopelessness, people are reluctant to give up their traditions of ancestor worship to turn to Christ.

New Life League, Japan

Please pray for the Christians in Japan that they would grow closer to God through this experience and that they would be able to share God's love and salvation with their unbelieving friends and family.

By the way, you can visit New Life's web site by Googling for New Life League, Japan, and then hit translate. (It is in Japanese).

As we have not written much about the work going on in Japan, we have decided to add some excerpts from the Director's latest newsletter

"Dear Friends in Christ,

What God is doing in China does not cease to amaze me. No-one can say for sure how many people turn to Christ and become his followers on a daily, monthly or annual basis. We do, however, know that it is MANY.

A close friend of mine recently met with an evangelist who had started work in a new

place. He had seen "only" 56 converts in about 5 months time and apologetically told my friend that it was a hard place to work and few were accepting the Gospel message. Wow! What would it look like if we saw that kind of growth in Japan or in the West?

The truth of the matter is that compared to many regions of China the conversion rate above actually is slow. People are not won through large campaigns or as a result of listening to famous preachers. No, they are simply harvested as a result of evangelism by the average believer.

While the authorities adamantly insist that China has no Bible needs, we know of a very different situation. In fact, we constantly receive more requests than we are able to meet. The friend I mentioned, on his last trip received 39 addresses from one brother. Another pastor requested 20,000 Bibles on an annual basis..." (LCI delivers around 350,000 in a year!) "These are just a few examples. If the needs and the requests for the whole country were added up, we would have a staggering figure.

Last year we were, by God's grace, able to deliver more Bibles than ever before, and the opportunities are still abundant. We truly believe we need to act while the doors are fairly open. Our brothers and sisters are waiting for the Word of God and we do have unprecedented possibilities of delivering to them what they need and desire the most.

While we have recently printed quite large amounts of Bibles we urgently need to print more...."

New life League Japan is currently raising funds to print, 25,000 pocket Bibles, 200,000 Standard Bibles and 25,000 Pastor's study Bibles

in Chinese. If the Lord is leading you to make a donation for the printing of Bibles, following is some information on how you can do that.

We have had many folks over the years ask us how to help in actual Bible production for China. Well, here it is. New Life has a US counterpart that you can donate to for Bible production. Please remember for their donations, it is important not to note anything on the check memo line, but please attach a separate note with the check noting any designation.

NEXT

9757 Greenwood Ave North
Seattle, WA 98103-3013
USA

Current Costs in US Dollars for a Chinese Bible ...

Chinese Pocket Bibles are \$2.50 a Bible
Chinese Standard Bibles are \$3.00 a Bible
Chinese Study Bibles are \$7.00 a Bible

Our Address in Hong Kong:

You may send packages or letters to ;

Craig & Deborah Graber
4A, 2/F Wa Shan Tsuen
Middle Section,
Sheung Shui, NT
Hong Kong SAR

Please send cards and donations to ;

Beautiful Feet Ministries
PO Box 1816
Pinedale WY 82941

Our mail is being handled by Pinedale Properties in Pinedale Wyoming.

You can email us at;

Craig and Deborah;

TheGrabers@boxtracker.net

Craig

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Deborah;

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Praise Him ...

- † For HE is coming soon ...
- † For the work He is doing in all of us that know Him
- † That He will not give us more than He gives us grace for...
- † That the presses in Japan are working and that Bibles are still being printed.
- † Because He knows us and we know HIM.
- † For HE is Good, ALL the time !
- † Look UP, for your redemption draws near!

Prayer Requests ...

- For our Japanese brothers and sisters who are recovering from the earthquake. Pray that God would strengthen their faith and that He would give them boldness to share the Gospel with the suffering people around them.
- Please continue to pray for Craig as he writes the software for Japan that it will be what is needed. That God will lead, direct and inspire this work.
- That the Lord would continue to increase the numbers of Bibles going into China.
- Health things for both Deborah and I ...
- Pray for our walk with the Lord that we would grow closer to him every day and that our hearts would be soft towards Him...
- For continued growth at LCI with new long term co-workers.
- For the Peace of Jerusalem!