



Pawsons Prayer Letter

November 2021

What is Halloween??? (by Manuela)

“Americans worship their ancestors just like us. The only difference is that they do it at Halloween instead of in August when we Japanese celebrate Obon”. This is how the leader of the toddler group explained Halloween to me and the other mums a few weeks ago. “They hang up lanterns, dance and decorate graves,” she continued, “so that they can catch the ghosts of their ancestors, which will bring them luck”. This situation got me thinking, and maybe there is some truth in it. Perhaps the people of Western nations are not as secular as we sometimes think. But regardless of that, I wonder when we will have the opportunity in the future to talk about Him who should be worshipped and exalted about all else.



David and Manuela Pawson, with Esther and Gideon, are OMF missionaries in Japan, currently engaged in language and culture



Above: Meeting up with my friend!

Prayer Points

We are thankful for the good contacts and friendships we have developed.

We are thankful that, despite the disturbed nights with Gideon, we still have the energy to study.

Please pray for all the energy we need to continue studying until the Christmas break.

David, Manuela, Esther & Gideon

Contacts and Friendships

Thank you for everyone who keeps praying for our friendships here. The acquaintance from Tokyo, who we mentioned a few months ago has raised many questions about faith with David on Zoom. We were able to find an understandable version of the Bible to give her (modern translations of the Bible into Japanese often use obscure words that most Japanese would not understand). Please keep praying for her.

Here in Sapporo, we have some families we'd like to meet up with, especially during the Christmas season. This is a good opportunity to pass on something of the true meaning of Christmas. Our challenge right now is that we have to focus on learning the language and also think carefully about how much energy we have to meet friends. This weekend, for example, we will meet with a Brazilian-Venezuelan couple whose children are the same age as Esther and Gideon. Debbie and I were in the maternity ward at the same time after our children were born. We have met a few times and each time we have very interesting conversations.

Often our everyday life is so full that we don't even get to pray for our friends as much as we would like to, so thank you for your prayers.

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