

Land of the Risen Son

イエス・キリストは日本を愛する

(Jesus loves Japan)

Interesting Facts

The Bullet Train

The most famous of all the trains in Japan is called "Shinkasen" in Japanese. There are more than 2,459 km of track linking almost all the major cities on the islands of Honshu & Kyushu.

Tokaido Shinkasen

(see right)
The first of the "bullet trains" opened in 1964 and travels between Tokyo and Osaka. Between 1964 & 2007 it has transported 4.5 billion passengers: the most in the world.



Maglev Trains (see right)

These trains run using magnetic levitation. There is virtually no friction which allows the trains to travel fast. In 2003 the Japanese maglev trains set a new world record of 581 km/h.



Update: On the Road to Japan (Peter & Valerie Limmer)

Bad Language Weeks...

In June I (Valerie) made a comment to Peter's dad that when we have a bad week in terms of fundraising, we spend a little extra time in learning the Japanese language. Conversely, when we have a great fundraising week our language learning suffers somewhat. We just don't have enough time to do everything! He said to me, "Well, then, as your accountability partner I will pray that you have lots of bad language weeks!" In July we found ourselves madly busy with appointments, and language learning virtually stalled (you can stop praying now, Robert!). By the end of July, we'd actually hit a major financial milestone in our preparations (we can send you more information if you're interested).

God's grace is sufficient

I've struggled over the subject for this month's newsletter. I've battled with my desire to always be up-beat and sharing about our progression towards Japan, showcasing how God's power is abundantly apparent in our lives. But would this be truly showcasing how God is working in our hearts and lives over

this time, or would this simply be hypocrisy presented in a wrapping of religious self-sufficiency?



In the Bible God says, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." (2 Cor. 12:9a) If we are therefore to truly show God's power in our lives then along with Paul, we will choose to say, "Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me." (2 Cor. 12:9b)

Over the last month I have been virtually incapacitated by extreme fatigue, vertigo, and a few other symptoms. A diagnosis is still elusive (one doctor suggests post-viral fatigue), but during this time, I've felt as though God has brought me to an oasis where I can eat and drink my fill of Him. I am improving, slowly, and hope to be back in operation over the next few weeks. But I believe that some of the

lessons that we've been learning will be invaluable in Japan.

I've always been a very task-oriented person. However, during this time most tasks have either been out of my reach, or need to be rationed out a little at a time. It has been good to learn to step back from my "to do" list, and just learn to "be". In my journal last week, I wrote, "Faith isn't about doing; it's about being. Doing flows out of being." I think I'd gotten too caught up in the busyness of getting ready for Japan, and hadn't spent enough time just "being" one of God's children.

In my lack of strength, I have also been learning the meaning of the phrase, "In Christ, I can do all things, through Him who strengthens me." (Phil. 1:6) Serving him with busyness is not what our God desires; serving Him with a still Spirit, relying on Him, being connected, drawing strength from Him for each moment - that's what He wants. And that's what we're learning again to give Him.

One of my favourites...

I'm always intrigued when I find recipes that use the microwave - especially when they turn out well! I've used this one several times, often for Christmas baking. Given that I've been going through a period of low energy over the last several weeks, I thought I'd include a low-energy recipe for those of you that don't have a lot of time for baking.



Easy Rocky Road Squares

Ingredients

2 cups (12 oz. package) semi-sweet chocolate chips
 1/4 cup butter
 2 tbsp shortening
 6 cups (10 1/2 oz. bag) miniature marshmallows
 1/2 cup chopped nuts.

Instructions

1. Place chocolate chips, butter and shortening in large microwave-proof bowl. Microwave at medium (50%) for 5 to 7 minutes or until chips are softened and mixture is melted and smooth when stirred.
2. Add marshmallows and nuts; blend well. Spread evenly in buttered 8-inch square pan.
3. Cover; chill until firm. Cut into 2-inch squares.

Yield: 16 Squares

Contact Information

Thank You

Thank you for your interest in our work. We plan to send out newsletters every two months. If at any point you decide that you don't want to receive them anymore, just email (japan@peterandvalerie.com) or call us (905-848-2529).

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