



THE BROWN FAMILY TO OKAYAMA, JAPAN



Dear Friends & Supporting Churches,

Feb 2025

We greet you from Japan with gratitude for your continued prayers and support. February has been a month of growth and encouragement, both in our personal lives and ministry here. We are thankful to be able to share with you the progress and challenges we've encountered

The highlight of the month was the visit from our sending pastor, Eddie Walker, and his wife Tracee. It was a true blessing to have them here for a week, especially after being apart for so long. Their visit provided much-needed encouragement and a chance to reassess our goals and direction as we continue serving here. Having now been in Japan for over six months, we have gained a better understanding of the unique challenges our family faces in this new environment. Pastor Walker's insight, based on his years of ministry experience, helped us sharpen our focus and develop strategies to address these challenges as we continue to settle into life here. Pastor Walker also planned to give a report back to Orchard Baptist Church on our progress while he was visiting, which is a great way for them to stay connected with our work here.

We also heard some exciting news from Pastor Walker about what the Lord has been doing back at our sending church, Orchard Baptist. The church has now finalized the move to their new location and has seen significant growth. Many new members have been attending and getting involved. One of the most encouraging updates was about the most recent discipleship course, where 16 people have signed up and are actively participating. It's incredible to see how God is continuing to bless Orchard Baptist, and we are humbled to hear that many of the new members that we haven't had chance to meet yet have been praying for us and supporting us from afar. Receiving a care package from the church was such a blessing, and it reminded us how deeply we are loved, even from across the world.

We continue to make progress with language learning, although it remains a challenging and time-consuming process. We've ramped up our study hours and we are grateful for the progress we've made so far. It's still a long road ahead, but we are committed to this task as we desire to serve more effectively in the community and in the church.

In our recent discussions, Pastor Walker suggested, and we agreed, that transitioning to a bi-monthly prayer letter would better allow us to focus on the foundational work we're doing in this early phase of our ministry. The language learning, community engagement, and relationship-building are all important areas where we are investing significant time and effort. However, if any of our supporting churches prefer to receive monthly updates, please let us know, and we would be happy to send a shorter update on the off months.

We are excited to continue to serve here in Japan, and we thank you for your continued partnership. Your prayers and support mean more to us than we can express, and we look forward to seeing what God has in store for us in the coming months.

Randy Brown and family

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