## **Praise and Prayer**

The CitytoCity Asia Pacific Coaching Directors May meeting, in Bangkok, was encouraging. We shared our struggles and successes about our coaching networks. After our return. a sixsession, "How to Mentor our Coaches" followed.

Koji completed those sessions in the summer through September.

Pray that Koji could implement those skills, especially in the quarterly coach cohort meeting.

Koji continues to coach nine church planters. Finding the next coaching director is an key step for the future. We are looking for someone who is being molded by the gospel, loves coaching, and is also comfortably bi-lingual.

Pray for the future CTCJ coaching director.

Marcia lost her sense of smell in April 2023 after Covid. No treatment seemed to help. It suddenly returned in September, but then went away again.

Pray for complete healing of Marcia's sense of smell..



## Reaching Japanese Living Outside Japan

We asked for prayer for approval from the Presbyterian Church in Japan to give a seminar on Christ-centered preaching in Australia, and we received it. The "Melbourne Initiative," on November 7-8," will be a workshop for pastors and teachers serving the Japanese diaspora living in Australia. In addition to the seminar, Koji will preach at the Melbourne Japanese Christian Church.

"Why go to Australia to reach Japanese?" Although the number of Japanese churches outside Japan is small (about 45 compared to 7,900 churches in Japan), each church outside Japan averages two baptisms per year compared to one per year inside Japan. This is according to the Japan Evangelical Association and the survey done for the JEA Mission Guide 2023. Reasons reported for this were that there were more opportunities to come in contact with Christians overseas. Also, Japanese crave food and fellowship overseas and often find that it is provided by churches. Japanese nationals relocate to Australia with a year-on-year increase of 5%, and the Japanese-language churches are there to present the gospel.

Pray for our preparation for the Melbourne Initiative on Christ-Centered Preaching on November 7-8. Pray that Japanese pastors and teachers would be encouraged.