ESAKIS IN OSAKA

PRAYERS ANSWERED!

We have been asking you to pray for Marcia's health and her ability to accompany Koji on the UK trip.

We managed through the long plane flights and the nearly three weeks in the UK.

Once we returned, Marcia began taking the BTK inhibitor, Calquence, by oral pills. Within the first week, her sense of smell started to come back and then it came roaring back. Praise God. It has been three years since she could smell anything.

Celebrating 40 years, in Scotland

Prayer: Pray for continued healing for Marcia. Help her body to adjust to this medication, and for her to learn to schedule herself around the unpredictability of fatigue.

Pray as our children and grandchildren will come to Japan over Christmas and New Year's. Pray for safety and good times.

Comments from the Christ-Centered Preaching Seminar Attendants: London

Thank you for coming all the way from Japan and holding such a valuable seminar. You taught us, step by step, how to explain Christ and the cross from the Bible; it was very beneficial. You presented the concerns and perspectives of non-believers and how to communicate a message from that viewpoint.

When it came to preaching, I used to think, "I just need to convey love so that everyone's heart is filled." However, after participating in this workshop, I feel my perspective has shifted. I'm also grateful that you warmly welcomed a beginner like me.

After the workshop, I revisited the sermon message for the next day. After the message, my 12-year-old son told me, "Today's message was good—it was easy to understand!" Children's reactions are honest, aren't they? But it really drove home to me once again that I'd been working too hard at including too much unnecessary information. In the seminar, I learned about shedding the right amount of light on a text. I learned the importance of a proposition. I received guidance on how to approach the Word of God. I feel this will serve as a foundation for structuring my messages going forward, and it revealed areas where I had previously felt stuck.

Praise and Prayer: Seventeen Bible teachers from London, Birmingham and even Wales attended, including five pastors. Pray for fruit among the Japanese diaspora communities.

More Praise: We asked you to pray for an assistant director of coaching to help prepare for the future. I have found a bi-lingual man, with coaching experience, and a heart for coaching.