

## From the Editor

It is always a great joy to hear of Japanese believers telling others about Christ. This month WEC missionary Gisela Gaub shares how one lady in her church recently got so excited about the gospel that she starting sharing it from her hospital bed.

*Henrietta*

## News and Prayer Points

Thank God for Mrs O's testimony (see story, right) and pray especially for the lady she met in hospital.

Pray for the introductory course to the Christian faith which Kusatsu church will start in March.

Praise God for Mrs Suzuki who was baptized in Megumi church, Hikone this month, and amongst others for Mrs J.T. who was baptized in Kaori church last year. Pray for their walk with the Lord now and for our teams as they seek to teach and encourage them.

The Lees will start a church meeting in their house in Yamashina from 19<sup>th</sup> February. Pray for this new work, which will be called Izumi Christian House.

Pastor Matsubara will retire next month. Pray for Ishiyama church and especially for new leadership.

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*Kusatsu ladies meeting: fellowship over glass painting!*

## Equipped to Witness

For many years I have been running ladies meetings at our church. My purpose is to help the ladies grow in faith, have fellowship and improve in reaching out to people. Sometimes I've wondered if we are really reaching others, but I was very encouraged recently.

Mrs. O, one of the ladies who comes regularly to the meetings and who also runs a home group, suddenly had severe pain in her stomach. The following day she decided to go to the hospital. The doctor asked her to stay in the hospital for gallstone treatment.

When I visited her, I wasn't sure how she would be. To my surprise she had a radiant face and hardly talked about her situation, but instead chatted about all the opportunities she had in the hospital: listening to people, encouraging them, telling them about Jesus and even praying for them. When I gave her some tracts to pass on to people she told me, "I was hoping you would bring me some tracts!"

I was really touched, that even though she has had a lot of hardships in her life – husband died many years ago because of cancer, son had a sports accident and is paralyzed – she was not drowning in self-pity, but seeing the needs of the people around her.

When I visited her a second time I happened to have a copy with me of how to explain the gospel to someone by using the "Roman Road" (verses out of Romans). I told her about it and she asked me for a copy. A day or two later she phoned and told me very excitedly that she had studied the material and then had an opportunity to share it with the lady next to her. She was so overjoyed and asked me to come to the hospital to also talk and pray with that lady.

Since her release she has kept in contact with this lady. Right now Mrs O. is in hospital again – and the lady is now visiting *her*, in her wheelchair! Praise the Lord for using people!

*Gisela Gaub*