

## 100 in attendance at our Christmas Events

We were amazed at the turn out for our Christmas events! We praise God that more than 100 people attended across the three events! Our main goals were to share the Gospel and make a good impression on the new neighborhood where the church is moving to, and praise God He did more than we expected! People from around the community would stop in to enjoy the Christmas lights and games, and each one received a Gospel tract and an invitation to the new building's grand opening in April. **Many were excited about us moving to the community and were thankful for the Christmas event.** Each night as I preached, people listened intently. Many had never been to church or heard the Gospel before. I saw many tears as I shared the love of God and the meaning of Christmas. **At least three people are seriously considering believing in Jesus. Pray they will!**

## New Building's Grand opening on April 6th

In Japan many new things start in April because it coincides with the start of the school year and Spring which is a season viewed as new beginnings here. We are so excited to have our first Sunday service at the new building on the first Sunday in April! **We still have much to prepare, and still have some minor construction projects in progress. Pray we can get everything done and ready by April 6th.**

## Support for a national pastor in training

**Sho, the man that was saved about 2 years ago, that leads our music, and has been preaching for the last few months wants to do ministry full time!** This is an incredible step of faith for him, his wife and their one year old. Sho has been a faithful worker within the church and has really become my right hand man. He is at every event. He has already read through the entire Bible once and is almost done with his 2nd time. He meets with me each week for discipleship and training. He is a workman worthy of his hire and **I believe he will become the pastor of Kibou** when the church is ready to stand on its own. This is one of our biggest goals to fulfill and one of the hardest to obtain.

**The biggest problem is a lack of funds.** After the church covers its bills there is only enough funds to give Sho a partial salary. **We need around \$1,000 extra a month** to provide for his family and pay his bills. This would still be a low salary for him, but he so wants to serve the Lord, he's willing to work at a lower salary. He will be studying and training with me to become a pastor so this leaves him no time for a part time job. **For all these reasons, I'm asking each church and Christian that receives our letters to consider supporting Sho. All he needs is 40 sponsors to support him for \$25 a month.** I've included a letter from him and his wife where they share their testimonies and desire to serve the Lord. Please read their letter and pray about partnering with them for at least \$25 a month. All donations can be made through Lighthouse. Please make checks out to Lighthouse Baptist Church and in the memo line write "for Sho Nishimura". 100% of what is given to this fund will go to support Sho and his family.

I plan on making cuts in our personal budget and ministry budget to help cover the lacking amount of his salary, so your support for him will help us tremendously in operating at a good budget here. I know so many have given to help the ministry here, and I am so thankful for what God has done through your gifts. **Sho is one of the few Japanese men willing and excited to serve Jesus! Let's help him do that!**

# Hill Family JAPAN



Above: Christmas Events



Above: Kid's event at new building  
Below: Chocolate Making for Valentine's Event



Left: Sho & family | Right: Ruka teaching kids Bible



## Sending Church/Support Address

Will Hill C/O Lighthouse Baptist Church  
329 Harmony Church Rd. Dawsonville, GA 30534  
Pastor Charles Blackstock | Church office 706-265-9868

## Contact Us

IP Phone: 770-776-6987  
Email: will2japan@gmail.com  
risingmission.com

January-March 2025

February 2025

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter which includes a brief introduction of our family and the heart we have for full-time ministry. We are the Nishimuras; Sho, Krista and baby Luna. We first met Will and Rebel here in Niigata back in 2022 and are now so grateful for the friendship we have with the Hill family. It is an honor to serve and be part of the core of Kibou (Hope) Baptist and the various ministries there. (Music, English Cafe, Japanese service etc.)

A bit about us:

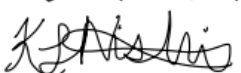
Sho: God has completely changed my life over these past three years. I was born and raised in Niigata and come from a broken family. I spent the first 26 years of my life in Japan and always felt empty. After trying just about everything but never feeling satisfied, I went overseas with the hope that I would find meaning. I met Krista and she brought me along to church but my heart was cold. Several years later, while we were on a plane to Japan, we experienced some crazy turbulence and, when I thought we might crash I got to the end of myself and cried out to Jesus. That moment, the plane landed... I knew that there was no more denying and I accepted Christ as my Savior. Since then, I have been making up for lost time and seeking God's will for my life through worship and daily bible reading. Will has been a great friend and mentor to me and has answered hundreds of my questions. I am excited for the future!

Krista: I was born in North Carolina and was raised (for the most part) in New Zealand. I count myself blessed to have been brought up by parents who love the Lord and who believed with me for Sho's salvation. Japan has had a special place in my heart as far back as I can remember, and I am so grateful to be based here. Sho and I welcomed our daughter into the world in September of 2023. Most days, I take Luna to local 'childrearing support centers' and interact with moms who, for various reasons, are lacking a support network. A lot of these moms have confided in me about difficulties they are facing and I have found that most are open to discussions about faith. I appreciate your prayers as I invite these ladies to church, that their hearts would be open to the Gospel.

In one of Pastor Will's recent messages at church, we heard the statistic (from a government survey, no less) that more than 50% of people in Japan do not feel loved and, sadly, we were not surprised. This has to change; our hearts are burdened and we share in Will and Rebel's vision for the local people of Niigata and those who have come to call this city their home. After long chats with Will and Rebel and much prayer, Sho has decided to take a leap of faith, resign from his current role and join the staff at Kibou. We do not want to be a financial burden on the Hills and the offerings here are not quite where they would need to be to fund Sho's salary. We humbly ask if you would consider supporting us financially? We are happy to answer any questions you may have and thank you once again for taking the time to read this.

Sincerely,

The Nishimuras

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Niigata, Japan 950-2076