



The Robisons:

A New Partnership Begins.

Married!

In the summer of 2003, I walked into Tachikawa Ekimae Church for the first time. I was there as a short term missionary to help the church with their Summer English outreach program, teaching English and inviting students to the church. I met many new friends, one of whom was Tomo Takahashi, the daughter of Tachikawa Ekimae Church's pastor. God brought me back to the church on other short term trips many times over the years, and then in May of 2009 He brought me back for a different reason. On May 30th, 2009, at Tachikawa Ekimae Church in Tokyo, Tomo and I got married.

After my first trip to Japan, I never would have guessed that this was what God had in store for me. In 2003 my life plans were so far different from what God had in mind. But six years later, with my life goals completely turned upside down, I couldn't be happier or more excited about the place God is taking me, or now, I suppose I must say, the place God is taking us. Tomo is currently in the process of joining SEND,

and we will be returning together, Lord willing by the end of 2010 to serve in Japan as missionaries, planting churches, and proclaiming the gospel in one of the least reached countries in the world.

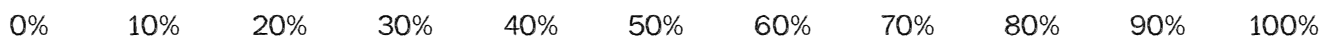
It was an incredible joy and privilege to be married in the church that I had been able to serve at so many times over the last 6 years. Many of the people from the church helped out in planning the wedding, and decorating, cooking and playing instruments, many of them people I had met on my first trip to Japan. And of course in the midst of it all, walking towards me down the aisle was that cute little Japanese girl I had met six years earlier, looking amazing as ever, to become my wife.

I could go on about the wedding for many pages, but since my space here is limited, I'll quickly change gears and try to briefly talk about the massive impact this is going to have on my ministry plans. As previously stated, they're no longer only my plans, but our plans. Tomo is going to be joining in



the work I'll be doing, we'll both be raising support, and ministering together in Japan. This means that we'll have more support to raise (roughly double), and so it'll take a little longer to get there, but, Lord willing, the two of us will be arriving in Japan only a year and a half later than I planned to originally. And with Tomo's gifts, and innate grasp of Japanese culture and mindset,

14% Promised Monthly Support





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I am confident that the two of us will be far, far more effective together than I ever could hope to be on my own.

For those of you who are already supporting me, I once again thank you, and thank God for you and your generosity, and you're now officially supporting two missionaries. I pray that your investment will have twice the return. For those of you who have perhaps been considering supporting us financially, I humbly ask for your help once again. There is much work to be done in Japan, and many, many Christians, both "goers" and "senders" are needed to accomplish it.

Tomo's Column My Testimony

My father is a pastor in Japan and I grew up hearing the Gospel. I believed in Jesus as my Savior with a simple heart when I was a child. But as I grew older and began to see that Christians were overwhelmingly small in number in the Japanese society, my faith was shaken. I didn't want to be different from everyone else or ridiculed for my faith. When I was 15, I went to a high school camp. The speaker talked about our sin and I suddenly came to realize that fearing people more than God was a great sin that kept me from fully trusting God. I prayed for forgiveness and got baptized in December, 2002.

I was an education major in university because I wanted to glorify God through teaching career. However, I gradually grew a desire to work for a church and be actively involved with the ministry. My vision was to have a family and to serve a church as a family. Also, as a pastor's daughter in Japan where there are very few Christians, I felt that I was called by God to serve the Japanese people. Then, David asked me if I was willing to marry him. I knew that it meant that I would be a missionary in Japan with him, so I started praying about it. The fact that God put us together seemed to mean that God was also calling me into reaching Japanese people as a missionary. But when I faced the decision of becoming a missionary, I didn't feel qualified for it because I was so sinful and weak.

However, God helped me to realize through a couple of scriptures that God's calling was what qualified me as a missionary and not how qualified or unqualified I felt I was. One of them was Act 10 where Peter is told by a voice in a dream to eat certain animals. Peter says he cannot eat them because they are unclean. The voice, however, tells him "Do not call anything impure that God has made clean". This passage is talking about ministering to Gentiles, but I learned that I shouldn't call anyone, including myself, who is made clean through Jesus, unclean before God. Moreover, Jeremiah 8:4 says, "When men fall down, do they not get up? When a man turns away, does he not return?" It seemed to me that saying "I am too sinful to minister to other people" would be similar to not getting up after falling down. I did and will fall down again but God is willing to accept my repentance and help me and guide me. I was also very encouraged by Romans 14:4: "Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. And he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand." Praise the Lord for making me stand.



Prayer Requests



- That Tomo will be able to get a green card, work permit, driver's license and job as soon as possible.
- The Jesus Film Project (where I work as a computer tech) cut my hours, and informed me that they may have to let me go at the end of August due to budget cuts. Pray that God will provide a second job so that we can pay the bills till we finish raising support and leave for Japan.
- That we will be able to get up to 50% support by December, when we will go to Michigan for Tomo to go to SEND's Candidate Orientation program, after which, Lord willing we will be able to participate in a program which will allow us to spend 20 hours a week support raising for 10 months in order to raise the remaining support needed.

If you are interested in supporting me, please fill out a yellow promise card and mail it to:

SEND
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As contributions are tax-deductible, they are sought with the understanding that SEND International has complete discretion and control over the use of all donated funds. Each contribution for an approved program will be used as restricted with the understanding that funds received in excess of the amount required will be used where needed most.