



THE MANSELLS YOUR VOICE IN JAPAN SINCE 1983



Dear Praying Friends,

November 2008

Psalms 100:4 Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. [Romans 1:21](#) Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

[Colossians 3:15](#) And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

According to the above verses, being thankful is the way to bless God; not being thankful is one of the reasons for judgment; and being thankful is one of the essential elements to allowing the peace of God to rule our hearts. So, the best attitude for life is thankfulness. We are thankful to God for those of you who faithfully hold the financial and prayer ropes for us missionaries. You are very special to us and the Lord. Thank You!

We are thankful for several different opportunities that arose during the month to witness to contacts. There are always ways to say a little but when we get to say even more, that is a real blessing. We have had to put Vicki's car in the garage for two different items this month: inspection and an item replacement. While at the repair shop, Ken was able to visit with the wife, Mrs. Mito, while waiting for a repair estimate, God opened up a good conversation. She has children and grandchildren that we are familiar with and who are not grateful for the many things they do for them. Ken was able to take that example and compare it with the great care and love God shows us all each day in His many blessings and how we are not thankful or appreciative of that mercy and grace. It seemed to hit a cord in this woman's heart.

Vicki has times in the car with one of her taishogoto ladies each month. This again provides some openings...please pray for an open heart. That is the first difficulty in this country no matter how long we know some one—recent comment to something Vicki said: “You get to believe what you do because you are American. I have to believe what I believe because I am Japanese”. Timing was an interesting part of helping a young wife who is part of Vicki's ladies' chorus. Just as Vicki was leaving to go to practice the young lady walked by and looked up and saw Vicki with a big smile coming to her face. Vicki got back out of the car and went to Mrs. Takeda who immediately gave Vicki a large hug (very unusual here). Then, with tears in her eyes she could only keep saying, “I kept saying as I walked home, I want to see Vicki, I want to see Vicki”. Vicki took her into the entry way (she said no, she couldn't go inside) and Mrs. Takeda allowed her to pray for her outloud. For whatever reason, her day at work had been extremely difficult that day. May she come to know the real healer of hurts, “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.”

We held the annual northern Hokkaido missionaries' Thanksgiving gathering here in Teshio. We were privileged to have 33 attend this year and the day passed far too quickly! Needless to say the house was very quiet after they left. Always seems a little too quiet at first. These short times of fellowship are always a refreshing change from the challenges of each one's ministry. We are very thankful for the “family” that God has supplied us with here in Hokkaido. It makes the separation of our own family less painful and the joy of fellowship sweet. We posted pictures on our website for you to see there.

We are making preparations for our Christmas program which will be held on the 23rd. It is a national holiday here in Japan so we are going to see if we get more response in attendance because everyone wouldn't be having special meetings and gatherings on a Tuesday as they seem to do on Sundays here in Teshio. We covet your prayers for this endeavor again this year. We will be going through the life of Christ in song and Word as well as a short video presentation. Our fliers are all printed up and we will start passing them out right away. Vicki was asked by the city to teach two kinds of Christmas cookies this month to a mother/child activity group (by sign-up). This will also give an opportunity to get fliers out.

One other prayer request: Vicki's eye is still being followed by the doctor. We are praying this month's check will bring the 'healed' results. Also she will be consulting with a doctor at the end of this week concerning sleep apnea which is even beginning to affect her in the afternoon at times. Thank you for praying.

Serving Christ Together,
Ken and Vicki Mansell

Just A Prayer At Night – your evening is our daytime

Field Address: Kaigan Dori, 2-Chome; Teshio, Hokkaido 098-3306 JAPAN; ph#:011-81-1632-2-2462;(American# to our home in Japan: 520-303-1446-add 14hrs-EST)

Home Church: Bethel Baptist Church, 11040 E. Escalante Road, Tucson, AZ 85730; (520)722-0818 Support: CMC, PO Box 219228, Houston, TX 77218-9228;

Email: mansell@worldtell.com; Web Page: www.worldtell.com Web blog: www.mansellmusings.blogspot.com