

Meet Kiyomi

"Are you ready to go to Heaven?"

Kiyomi's father would ask her that question every time she came to visit.

"I would think, 'Oh, no. Not this question again!'" She would always answer, "Yes." But that wasn't the truth. "I would wonder, 'Can I continue to lie like this?'"



Kiyomi had been raised in a Christian home, but she grew distant from any belief in God. And while her father's recurring question irritated her, it also made her think.

"I began asking myself, 'What can I do for the remainder of my life? What legacy can I leave for my children and grandchildren? Where will I go if I die?'"

One day her 8-year-old grandson spontaneously announced, "I want to learn English!" Immediately, Kiyomi heard herself replying, "I want to learn **the Bible!**"

She met Tony Haug, OTAN's Japan Ministry Manager and the pastor of Shimonoseki Christ Bible Church. The two of them began studying the Bible together. After several sessions, Pastor Tony reminded Kiyomi that she had been prayed over all of her life. He asked if she wanted to pray to accept Jesus.

This time, Kiyomi's "Yes!" was the truth.

"Pastor Tony prayed with me. I confessed that I was a sinner and separated from God. I recognized that because of my sin, Jesus Christ died on the cross and rose again on the third day. I accepted in my heart that the Lord Jesus was my Savior."

Now Kiyomi has a new prayer:

"God, Father in Heaven, I have lived with my back to you. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for pulling me back from my detour and keeping me from getting lost. I receive the grace of God and plan to share it with others. Please guide me. Amen."

In Japan's population of more than 125 million people, less than one percent are evangelical Christians.

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