

O'BRIENS IN JAPAN

WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN, WHY, HOW?

There's so much to share with you! This summer marks our 14th year here in Japan, so we want to share some brief moments of our life and calling.



WHO?WHERE?

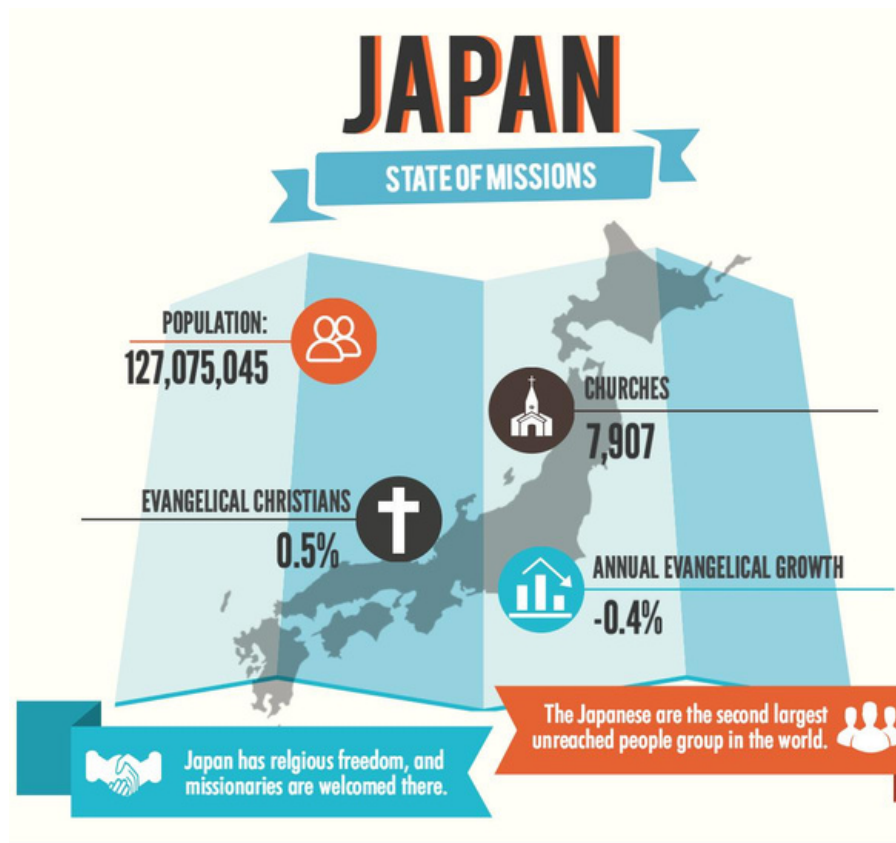
We are Carl, Elizabeth, Samuel, Pearl, and Daniel. Both Sam and Pearl joined our family by adoption when they were small, and they both happen to rock their Down Syndrome. Daniel is our surprise miracle baby after 13 years of infertility. We are living and serving as tentmaker missionaries in Nara, Japan.

WHAT?WHY?

What's a tentmaker? It's the missionary style modeled after the Apostle Paul who worked his way through ministry travels as a tentmaker. Now the term means a missionary who is self supporting. Our aim is to glorify Christ in our lives and to share his love and truth with those in our lives.

WHEN?HOW?

We moved to Japan in 2010 to Yamaguchi prefecture to teach English, and there we founded a Bible study that still meets today by God's amazing power and grace! We moved to Nara prefecture in 2012 where we serve our local church, work, are involved in the community, and build relationships.



WHY JAPAN?

What can we possibly do? How can we share with you our story in such a brief space? *Ganbarimashou!* (We'll do our best!)

Carl had always been interested in Japan and Elizabeth knew she was called to missions from the age of 9. When an opportunity to teach English in rural Yamaguchi prefecture opened up, we knew it was the Lord's guidance. Japan is actually an unreached people group because of how few Christians there are. There is a rich history of missions here, but the need is for local believers and pastors. Our calling is relationship building, sharing the love and life-changing power of Jesus with those in our lives, serving our local church in support roles so that the lead missionaries in the area can do their jobs, and by reaching out to other adoptive and disability parents.

From creating Bible studies to serving Thanksgiving dinner, from sharing about our adoption story and how all lives are precious to creating a Facebook support group for parents of children with disabilities in Japan, from setting up technology in church each week to making coffee in a coffee roastery, from sending our kids to the local public school to enrolling them in a dance group ministry, from teaching Sunday school to teaching English classes--our prayer is that in all we do, Christ would get the glory, our lives would reflect his love, and people would see the hope, freedom, and salvation he offers.

There's no more space here, but PLEASE feel free to contact us to stay in touch and to sign up for our (not very) regular newsletters. carllizobrien@gmail.com

Image from <https://trimmedtales.wordpress.com/2016/01/29/japan-state-of-missions-infograph/>