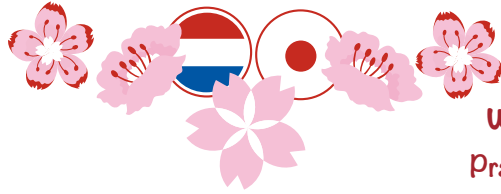


ProjectDeshima

NEWSLETTER 17
DECEMBER 1TH 2022



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Prayer points, vlogs and newsletters



- **TOUGH TIMES AND GREAT OPPORTUNITIES**
- **CONSEQUENCES OF THE MURDER OF SHINZO ABE FOR THE CHURCH?**
- **PRAISE AND PRAYER POINTS**

TOUGH TIMES AND GREAT OPPORTUNITIES

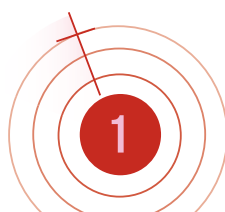
I have now completed five rounds of chemotherapy. Time to catch up. I marvel that in a difficult time I get to share the gospel in special ways.

The last few months have been extremely intensive. After every combined round of chemotherapy/immunotherapy I have less energy. Things also take more effort mentally; I remember things less easily and find it difficult to concentrate. I sleep badly, which does not contribute to my energy level! I find the road I am currently walking on very confrontational. Physically and mentally so much has happened. Fortunately, I do it all for a reason: a CT scan showed that the chemotherapy is working: my lymph nodes are back to normal size and the bone marrow that was affected by the metastases in my left leg is recovering. Great news!

Other good things happen too. In 2021 I appeared on a programme on Dutch tv, De Verandering (The Change), in which I had the

chance to tell how God transformed my life. The makers have contacted me for an interview about how my life is like now. I said yes to this. I especially wished to convey that I have had many questions because of my illness, but still experience that God is the same. The interview has already been recorded, and the programme is expected to be broadcast on December 17.

This newsletter appears just before my fiftieth birthday on December 8. Recently I reflected that I have never been so aware that a birthday is not a matter of course. Unfortunately I don't have the energy to celebrate my birthday in a big way, but maybe that will come later. Someone suggested that I can throw a party when I'm 50½. For now I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



CONSEQUENCES OF THE MURDER OF SHINZO ABE FOR THE CHURCH?

Last summer, Shinzo Abe, former prime minister of Japan, was assassinated. It has now become clear that the perpetrator was driven by frustration about a sect, the Unity Church, to which his mother was affiliated. Research has shown that many Japanese parliamentarians have connections with this sect.



The Japanese traditionally have a distrust of cults, and that distrust has often been fuelled, for example by the attacks that a cult committed in the Tokyo underground in the 1990s. What makes it very complicated is that the Japanese will not easily see the difference between

cult members and people who propagate the Christian faith. In the past, missionaries in Japan have had to deal with great mistrust.

Missionaries in Japan do not have to fear that the Japanese government will suddenly take measures against people who evangelize, but

there is a chance that the Japanese, already very sceptical of people who want to show them a different way of life, will become even more reluctant to listen to the people who tell them of the love of Christ. A big prayer point.

PRAISE AND PRAYER POINTS



Thank the Lord for the opportunity to spread the Gospel at 'De Verandering'. Pray that the right people will see the programme

Praise the Lord that the treatment is working.

Pray for strength for the last chemotherapy/ immunotherapy on December 13, and for the last two rounds of immunotherapy on January 3 and 24. Pray that everything will work out and that I will make a full recovery.

Pray for mental energy. The treatment also affects that

Pray for the church in Japan. Pray for opportunities to show what the Christian faith really is.

More prayer points and methods to pray can be found on www.projectdeshima.nl.

