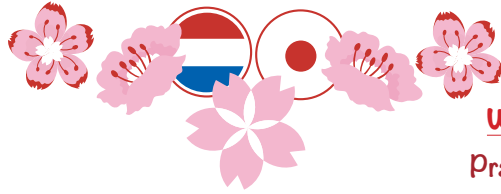


ProjectDeshima

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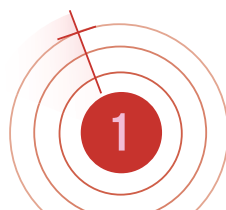
- ALL OF 2024 IN THE NETHERLANDS :(
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ALL OF 2024 IN THE NETHERLANDS :(

In recent newsletters we have provided a lot of varying information about when I would go to Japan. The doctors at the international OMF headquarters in Singapore and the management in Japan have now indicated that I will not be welcome in Japan until February 2025. A bitter pill.

I have struggled with this news, especially because all kinds of medical assumptions have been made without ever talking to the "patient" (i.e. me). I've been wondering how to deal with this. My choice is clear: either I accept the decisions of this leadership or I look for another organisation. I know that there are few mission organisations that are as widely active in Japan as OMF is. That is an important argument for me. But I shed a lot of tears over the fact that there will be more delays, especially because the delays seem so unnecessary.

In a vlog that was posted on YouTube shortly after the conversation with OMF, I indicated that it seems logical to me that people should stop giving for this year. I really hope that you will start again in 2025. For now, I cannot reconcile it with my conscience to continue receiving money for a project that keeps being postponed. Thank you very much to the people who said that they still want to continue in 2024. And thanks to everyone who has done so in recent years! Shortly after my bad news conversation with OMF, I spent a few days at All Nations. This is the Bible college in England where I studied in preparation for my deployment. It was great to see many old acquaintances. Their passion for God and trust in His plans was exactly what I needed to pull me back together. I find it very intense to have to wait another year, while I usually feel as if I have never been ill. Please join us in praying for the right use of this year. I hope to get a job, but maybe the Lord has something else in store for me. I would like to hear his will.





JAPAN IN THE NEWS

The year started off intensely in Japan. On January 1, there was a major earthquake that killed over 200 people.

Immediately afterwards, the country was in the news again because of the passenger plane that hit a small coast guard plane upon landing. Five of the six occupants of the small plane died. The big plane caught fire, but... everyone got out alive.

Many comments on this miraculous outcome stated that if this accident had happened in any other country, there would undoubtedly have been casualties. The Japanese are extremely well-drilled in safety regulations and they have the habit of listening to people in authority. We can be grateful for that in this case. At the same time, we continue to pray that they will listen to what the Lord wants to tell them about their eternal security.

The January 1 earthquake got many people in Japan thinking again about the Great Tokyo

Earthquake, which many experts say is inevitable in the near future (actually, it should have already happened). A lot of people took practical precautions, getting food supplies and water. We know that more is needed.

PRAISE AND PRAYER POINTS

Thank the Lord for the week in England. The stay at All Nations was a great encouragement.

Give praise for my increasing energy.

Pray that I can let go of disappointment about the date of departure and continue to look forward with enthusiasm to the future in Japan.

Pray that I will actively take up my Japanese studies again. The constant uncertainty about the departure date did not help.

Pray for God's provision for how to use 2024.

