



# RIVERSIDE NEWS

Assemblies of God

Now...the Harvest!

## Inside Issues

### Riverside Chapel

In 1991 Pastor Hiromasa Amano received a vision from God, Who promises to increase the number of members upto a thousand times.

(see Page 3)

### God's Calls

We are called to exalt the Lord, to encourage the Body, to edify the Saints, to equip for Ministry and to evangelize and outreach.

(see Page 3)

### X'mas Events

Hallelujah! Shout to the Lord for the birthday of Jesus Christ!

**Dec. 21:**  
**"Christmas Celebration,"**  
**Special Guest speaker**  
**Pastor Amano, is thrown**  
**at English Service of Riv-**  
**erside Chapel beginning**  
**from 3pm.**

"Ronnie Rucker Gospel Concert" is held at the Riverside Chapel from 7pm.

The year of 2003 is the year of our victory.

..... a place of refreshing, recharging and restoration.

## Plead the Blood



By Pastor Marilyn

**Isaiah 54 says "and great shall be the peace of your children." The Bible promises "no weapon formed against you shall prosper! Every tongue that rises against you shall be condemned (Psalm 112:7-8.)"**

But some live in fear, anxiety attacks, panic attacks and worries! Others may even reject to hear the truth of the matter and bring excuses before God, Who will not grant forgiveness until their **repentance.**

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## FAITHFULNESS and PROSPERITY



By Pastor BB

**"...I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well. It gave me great joy to have some brothers come and tell about your faithfulness to the truth and how you continue to walk in the truth."**

(3 John 1, 1-4)

This is a letter that John addressed to the elder Gaius and prayed for him for he was faithful to God. One day I was praying for brothers, but God

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## God's Healing Power Still Exists Today

"Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever!"



**Testimony:** Let's take a closer look at how the miraculous power of God has touched Bro. Ndubuisi Ihe (also called Sony,) from Nigeria.

Bro. Sony always likes to stand at his favorite seat of the front second row to worship and praise God, and he looks so healthy and content that we may hardly image in 1999 he, then a Catholic, laid almost dead at hospital.

The story began late in June of the year Sony was suddenly attacked by a serious stroke and knocked down onto the ground. He was emergently rushed to hospital, showing no consciousness in his brain and the left side of the body from head to toe all paralyzed.

His Japanese physician could not find the cause of the sickness and announced it was incurable. Many believed he was on the verge of death and his family,

Japanese wife and two little boys, were very frightened. They said, "He is dead."

But the presence of merciful, mighty God was "suddenly" moving toward Sony and speaking to him, saying **"Only Me, Who can heal you!"**

He enabled unconscious Sony to hear and to recognize it as God's voice, and laid the hope of life into his heart. Since then he grasped this hope and believed it, then the healing power of God started working in the dead body, he recalled.

A couple of days later God sent bro. Basil Ohia from English Service of Riverside Chapel to the

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GLORIFY GOD WITH OUR TESTIMONY, PLEASE CONTACT PASTOR BB.

## “Keep on trusting God for He is real,” said Sony.

hospital. As Sony saw the brother friend, it was like he saw the hope of God’s promise and demanded Basil to have him a cross with Jesus on it on the next visit.

Basil came to church and made a prayer request for Sony’s recovery. Soon the news was spreading over and the second visit of hospital was made.

Pastors Marilyn and BB and sis. Pam and Basil paid a visit to Sony, who never forgot his demand, a cross with Jesus on it.

Marilyn responded him, “The Bible is the best gift to save you.”

“...Yes, the Bible will save me,” he said to himself.

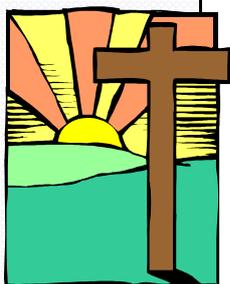
Since Riverside kept praying for Sony and he himself continued pressing on, more than two months after he was hospitalized, he was discharged from the hospital surprising many others that **“He is still alive.”**

To express his appreciation unto God he paid his first visit to Riverside with the help of church’s brothers, for he was unable to walk properly.

In Aug. 1999 he and his family made a decision to have the Holy Spirit of Baptism and to become a faithful member of Riverside. Now, Sony said he has received abundant blessings resulted from God, Who has not only restored good health and memories to him, but also answered to his prayers.

This year he has gotten a female baby and his blood pressure remains stable with no treatment of medication.

**“Now I can drive, walk, run, jump... Brethren, God always provides a way out for us. Keep on trusting Him for He is real,”** said Sony.



## PLEAD THE BLOOD

Brethren as life has many choices make good choices, then the grace of God will be working in our life. But we are not to take His protection for granted, and there are also times of **Discipline** from our Heavenly Father, like Jonah did not get soft treatment.

Why do we plead the blood?

- 1. The protection covering over us is through the blood of Jesus,** but it is not automatic for there is a connection between obedience and protection, as in Deut. 28:1-2 God sets before the people blessings for obedience and curses for disobedience.
- 2. There is power in the blood of Jesus.** In Exodus 12:7,13 God sent Moses to deliver the Israelites from the captivity, and revealed the angel of death who would be passing by would protect them as he saw the blood of lambs placed over their doorposts.
- 3. There is a New Covenant through Jesus own Blood with God,** so we enter into an agreement to follow Him and obey Him and in return. He gives us His strength, provisions, protection, salvation, everlasting love and even much more than we realize.

Yes, we have weaknesses and fail sometimes. As long as we repent, asking God for forgiveness of our sins and 1 John 1:9 says **“He is faithful and just to forgive us.”** This is all because of the blood we come out on top every time.

Therefore, in order to stay protected, we have to apply the blood of Jesus over our lives, our houses, our families and our jobs. Even before we take a new job, buy a new home or a new car, first we have to plead the blood of Jesus and bind the attacks of Satan against us. We are not our own but have been purchased with the precious price of Jesus’ own blood.

## FAITHFULNESS AND PROSPERITY

revealed to me whom I was praying for was not faithful because they robbed God.

In Malachi 3, 8-10, **“Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. But you ask, ‘How do we rob you?’ In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse – the whole nation of you – because you are robbing me. Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house.”**

If we rob God, it means we pay to the devil, one like to a hospital. Therefore, Brethren, do not tie God’s hand to bless us and rather save our treasures in heaven (see Matthew 6:19-20) and bring (it’s not pay for it belongs to God) our tithes to the house of the Lord.

In order to receive God’s blessings and prosperity we need love – love God, walk with God, obey God, and be faithful to God.

**Joshua 1:8 says “Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.”**

As long as we obey the Word of God, we will receive blessings and prosperity from God in our life. God has given us His son and, why shall He not give us other things? (see Romans 8:32) Today I have to share this message with you; otherwise, I would also be like I rob you of the truth.

If you obey God, you can challenge Him, searching the Bible from the Book of Genesis to the Book of Revelation to challenge God.

## HISTORY OF RIVERSIDE CHAPEL



In June of 1991 Pastor Hiromasa Amano and his then finance,

Yurika, began planting a church in Soka city with only four members including themselves. Soka, located just north of Tokyo, deeply rooted in the Buddhist religion. They were faced with a big challenge to teach the people of a real, living God who loves each and every one of them.

Through a vision, God gave Pastor Amano a promise. He would "increase the number of members by a thousand times." It was this promise that kept them focused on the goal.

Just five years later more than fifty members were gathered in the Japanese Service to worship God. At the same time, people from other countries were beginning to join the worship. They are gathering from Canada, Africa and other parts of Asia.

By 1999 we have grown into a multilingual worship center, with eight different services on Sunday with five languages represented Japanese, English, Korean, Philippino, and Portuguese. Later, the Lord enabled expansion by each service conducting it's own services.

Prayer has been the key to our success. We started an early morning

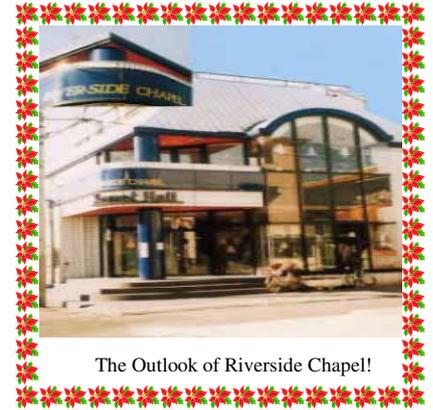
prayer meeting from Monday to Saturday. These prayer meetings have strengthened the church and in turn has caused the Holy Spirit to bless us with a mighty move.

Since we were a growing church it became necessary to move to a larger facility. This was not an easy task since acquiring either any land or building in Japan is a very expensive ordeal.

In 1995 an opportunity came up for Riverside to rent or buy a music hall in another part of Soka. This music hall was in a prime location and was very appealing as a church facility. However, at first it seemed like an impossible dream to rent and an even bigger impossibility to buy the building because of the asking price. Thank God He deals with the impossible! The dream of buying the building soon became a reality when the people began to pray and believe for a miracle.

Immediately God began to work in the situation. The owner of the building dropped the asking price. It is an unusual thing for anyone to drop the asking price for such a well sought after building. This encouraged the church to press forward. It was God's provision at work.

Much spiritual work was needed to cleanse the new church of the evil



The Outlook of Riverside Chapel!

that had been there for such a long time. However, the people knew the authority of the name of Jesus. With the battle now won over the darkness, a breakthrough happened. The congregation grew and so did the number of workers to help in the expansion.

By 1999, the church grew to over two hundred and fifty people and it seemed the number was weekly. In 1998 a small Bible school was established, called Holy Spirit Bible College.

(This article is translated by sis. Michiko Yamauchi.)

Now in 2003, more than 800-900 worshippers gather, with new church plants established and overseas mission works.

God is not finished with Riverside. We press on towards the goal, towards the harvest. The promise of God is that we will reap if we do not give up.



### Five Purposes within the Body of Christ



As a member of the Body of Christ we have five major purposes:

1. We are called to worship God and serve Him only (Matt 4:10,) exalt the Lord, and in the presence of God there is fullness of joy.
2. We are called to belong (Eph. 2:19.) We have the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, and are joined together one with another.
3. We are called to maturity. If we are not growing, then where are we going? In Discipleship Groups, we are studying the Word and devoted ourselves

- to the apostles teaching.
  4. We are called to serve. Everyone has a ministry and has been given gifts for the purpose of edifying the body giving glory onto God. (Eph 4:12.)
  5. We are called to evangelize, go and make disciples. It is the church's responsibility to carry the good news into all the world, this means our neighborhood, workplace and friends.
- Are you devoted to the things of God? If the gardener does not tend the garden, the vegetables will not grow.

### Discipleship Groups “We Build People”

Discipleship Groups is the main teaching aim of our church, to deepen the spiritual understanding of the Word of God and to build fellowship with one another.

**Mission:** “Therefore go and make disciples...”  
(Matt 28:19)

**Vision:** To make disciples who will go and make disciples...

**Purpose:**

- 1 Grounded in the Word of God
- 2 Built up and Encourage
- 3 Prayer Support
- 4 Training and Equipment for Ministry
- 5 Learn to be a Mentor



### Joy to the World

1. Joy to the world!  
The Lord is come;  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare  
Him room,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and heaven  
nature sing;

2. Joy to the world!  
The Savior reigns;  
Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods,  
rocks, hills and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the Sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat  
the sounding joy.

*Hallelujah! Merry X'mas  
and Happy New Year!*

### Worship Team

“The trumpeters and singers join in vision, as with one voice to give praise and thanks to the Lord, ...then the temple of the Lord is filled with clouds.”

**Our Goals:**

- 1 To create an atmosphere of worship unto God.
- 2 To usher people to the presence of the Lord.
- 3 To release the power of the Holy Spirit.
- 4 To minister through special music and song.

Also: Outreach, Special Events, All Church Outings, Cleaning Ministry, Women’s Ministry and Kid’s Church

We invite you to join with us.

### Prayer and Intercessory Ministry

A church in prayer experiences the power of God available to us, to reach the needs of people.

**Power Hour** ----- Wed. 9-10 pm

**Intercessory Prayer** ----- Fri. 10-12am

**All Night Prayer** ----- Every 2nd Sat. Monthly

**Courses Available:**

**Newcomers Study** ----- 2nd and 4th Sundays

**Japanese Bible Study** ----- 1st and 3rd Sundays

Also Available:

Counseling, Marriage Counseling, Deliverance Ministry, Water Baptism Courses (April/Sept.)

**Published by English Service of Riverside Chapel**

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● 教会で行われている集いのご案内 ●

主 日 礼 拝 毎週日曜日 AM11:00~PM1:00

賛美と祈り会 毎週水曜日 PM 7:30~PM9:00

教 会 学 校 毎週日曜日 AM 9:00~AM10:00

ジュニアチャーチ 毎週日曜日 AM 9:15~AM10:30



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