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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

"O give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His (covenant) mercy endures forever. Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom He has redeemed from the hand of the enemy." Psalm. 107:1, 2

If we ever miss or doubt the goodness of God, nothing in this world will ever come out right. It is about like Arkansas winter in the Tokyo area. There has been snow, but not in Hachioji. The weather charts show wanning trends. And lots of allergens. (sniff, sniff)

DAILY BREAD continues to spread, especially in Africa. A Brother Peter came to our church for a few services, and received DAILY BREAD, which he forwarded to his pastor in Zambia, who, in turn forwarded it to many others. There are several thousand readers in Africa now, and one radio station with more than a possible 5 million listening audience has asked for permission to broadcast it on his station. I am so thankful that the Word is going out. It is like putting out thousands of Bible tracts every day. Some of you who receive this letter could be receiving DAILY BREAD and sharing it with others. Just send your e-mail address.

We have for a number of years had an evangelistic Christmas service on Christmas Eve. People tend to be willing to come at that time. This year we put out 2,000 Gospel tracts and invitations. Seven new people came. As usual, they have not come since. That's normal here.

Sister Li Fei in China has got a new position. She has now qualified as an instantaneous English- Chinese translator. She is too busy, and we don't hear from her as much as we did. They still do not have religious freedom in China, even though America has sent many of our best companies over there Trade has nothing to do with the concept of religious freedom. Neither under Communism nor Islam. Religious freedom is the last freedom to be granted, and the first to be removed.

Sister Suree in Bangkok has gone into a good church and is growing and witnessing, and seeing people saved and serving. She came to Japan an atheist, looking for a Christian to argue with. She went back home a Christian with a strong desire to share Jesus with everyone. She has succeeded in sharing with some. Her mother was saved before she died.

We have some people coming from the Training Center. One is a brother from Uganda, where Brother Brommel is from. We have lost contact is Bro. Brommel, and Bro. Andrew said he will either find him, or find out what happened to him.

Sister Cheryl and husband moved to Singapore/Malaysia more than a year ago. English is not her best language, and she is very hesitant to write in English. Her best language is Chinese, which I do not read even a little. Rarely, she phones, but that is rarely, and not nearly enough.

I am teaching English as a volunteer at the local elementary school. The principal and vice-principal have become my friends. He reads English pretty well, and I share some of my poems and songs that I have written with him. My poem, In His Will, he liked so well, he framed it and set it up in his office. We pray that something more positive may come of it.

My wife's health does not improve, and I am called upon to do more of the household chores. This has resulted in an interesting development. Whereas people of the neighborhood never expressed respect for me for being a pastor, a man of God, or whatever, they all show much respect toward me for doing cooking and cleaning. Now, if we can convert this into their spiritual conversion.

I am in process of my 4 1/2 year mark for post-cancer operation tests. And Friday I am to see an eye doctor for laser surgery on both eyes. The aging process, but all in all, I still have relatively good health for 70.

Sunday Nathan brought a very good lesson on the meaning of spiritual. Very needful here since people classify emotional and psychological matters as spiritual. A lot of Americans also have a similar confusion. It is easy for this misunderstanding to create cults and giant churches without real spiritual understanding.

I must get a new computer. Perhaps today. When I do, DAILY BREAD may be out for a couple of days.

Thank you for all your prayers and support. God bless you in every way.

Carlton & Dorothy

IN HIS WILL
Carlton Elkins

In the center of His Will,
In the center of His Path,
I am safe from all that harms,
I am safe from Satan's wrath.

In the center of His Love
In the center of His Grace,
I behold His majesty
And the beauty of His face.

In the center of Himself,
In the center of His Plan
I'm so blessed in His purpose,
In the hollow of His Hand.

In the center of His Truth,
In the comfort of His smile,
I'm free from human terrors,
And the snares of human wiles.

In the center of His will,
I am under His control
I am free from all self-will
All is well within my soul.