

For this issue, let us share the testimony of the victory of the Cross revealed to one family, "The Fortress of Peace - Healing of God's Family -" by Mimi Fujii, a headquarter staff in the Church of the Wind, Ashiya. We believe that healing of her family is the representative of all people, and all nations.

Let us praise God with all our sorrows as God's family and pray for the peace on all the earth.

The Fortress of Peace

Healing of God's Family

Mimi Fujii

I was born and grew up in Okinawa, Japan. When I was 10 years old, our parents divorced. Minako, my younger sister, moved to the United States with our mother, while my younger brother, Kenichiro and I stayed in Okinawa with our father.

At that time, Minako was only four years old and Kenichiro was three, so they have very little memory of living together as a family. Although we were separated at a young age, last Christmas God brought us together to worship at the Church of the Wind.

After the worship, Minako said with conviction, "This is God's will! We are all going home to Okinawa together." So, we headed straight to Okinawa.

As our plane lifted off from Kobe Airport, we were overwhelmed with joy that the three of us, Minako, Kenichiro, and I are traveling to Okinawa together for the first time. My heart was full of joy, and I offered a prayer of thanksgiving to the Lord. In that moment, these words echoed deep within me:

“You three are
a fortress of peace.”



Then I realized that we were being sent to Okinawa as a God’s family to pray for peace. Just thinking that, tears quietly began to flow.

After arriving at Naha Airport and passing by a U.S. military port, we saw a massive coastal combat ship, like a giant block of concrete rising from the sea. My brother explained that it was one of the fastest naval vessels in operation. If China were to invade Taiwan, Okinawa would be directly affected, and the lives of people here would be in danger. In that moment, I felt deeply that Okinawa truly is a fortress of peace—not only for Japan, but for the peace of the world. I was reminded of the word that Mitsuko spoke in the worship service, “When Okinawa is at peace, the world is at peace.”

Instead of staying in a hotel, we chose an inexpensive Airbnb. It was a small apartment, and when Minako opened the blinds, she exclaimed, “Oh my God, this area is run down!” Looking outside, all we could see were old, abandoned houses. Later, we learned that this area had once been a cremation site, and that many people had died here during the Battle of Okinawa when bombs were dropped. I braced myself, thinking, “I might not be able to sleep tonight.”

Then, suddenly, Minako cried out, “There’s a cross!” And indeed, there it was, a large cross standing clearly in our window’s view. I thought to myself, “Why here?” But we immediately sensed that it was a sign that the Lord was with us.



Joy filled our hearts, and the room. In fact, we all slept well and had a wonderful time staying there.

Praise Transcends Time

We went to visit our father. It was the first time that all three of his children had come to see him together. I even wondered if he might think that this meant his time was near. Minako greeted him first, and he began to cry like a child. Then it was my turn, followed by Kenichiro's. We held hands together; it was an emotional reunion. My father's eyes were filled with tears.

My father has suffered a stroke and has gradually grown weaker; he is now bedridden. He can only eat liquid foods. He cannot speak, can barely open his eyes, and cannot move his hands freely. Seeing him in this condition was very painful, and I found it difficult to look at his face.

However, Minako gently held his hand, placed it against her throat, and began to sing a Latin praise song, "Livore Ejus," from Isaiah chapter 53 verse 5: "By His wounds we are healed." Perhaps he could feel the vibration of the song through her body. We felt that he was listening and singing along with us. It was such a peaceful moment that tears streamed down my father's cheeks.

When I joined in their praising, something extraordinary happened. The resonance seemed to come from my father's very being, growing deeper and stronger—far beyond what we could ever resound. I was completely astonished.

My father can no longer hear well, and he cannot sing. Yet we could clearly sense that his very presence was praising God. No matter how weak we may become, our very being still resonates with the Lord. In that moment, I felt the presence of the Lord and realized that our praise transcends

time itself, bringing healing to the wounds of our past and restoring what had been broken.

I had never experienced anything like this before. The room was filled with love of the Lord. My brother stood quietly beside us, watching. Though our family had been broken apart by divorce, we were being made one again through the resonance of praise.

Even if we cannot sing, even if we have no voice, even if we cannot hear, we can still be united through resonance. To be made part of God’s family is the greatest joy and the greatest healing.

That evening, I returned to the room with Kenichiro’s son, while Minako and Kenichiro visited our uncle. Then Kenichiro’s son asked me, “I’ve never seen siblings who



From left: Kenichiro, Minako, father, and Mimi.

are this close.” I told him, “We never had the kind of memories most families have, like eating breakfast, lunch, and dinners together happily. Do you want to know why we’re close?” When he nodded, I explained, “It’s because Jesus died on the cross and rose again, and because we all believe in Him and praise Him.” he smiled and said, “I believe in Jesus, too.”

The next day, while visiting relatives for New Year’s greetings, he came to me looking devastated. He had lost a box containing about twenty video game cartridges. Each one was worth about \$50, so in total over \$1000. We prayed together. Then incredibly my brother found them in the parking lot where we had been shopping. My brother and his son were overjoyed and declared, “Jesus really is the true God!”

Sorrow Is Redeemed by the Lord

Minako recently decided to become a house church leader of Kohitsuji no Mure. The climax of our time in Okinawa was a worship gathering held at my father's house. Minako said this was the very reason she had come. She had prepared sheet music and audio tracks on her laptop, and she shared her testimony in Japanese. Our stepmother also joined in singing along.

We also sang multi-dimensional praise, which means singing multiple different praises at the same time. It's not easy for people who are not used to it. Yet even without detailed instructions, when the praise became multi-dimensional, everyone began to sing freely.

It was truly amazing! When even one person sincerely desires to worship the Lord, the praise itself seems to respond and its joy and resonance increase. Praise is alive. It responds to our faith!

For the final praise, Minako chose Japanese praise song called, "You Are My Servant" (Isaiah 44:21–23). Though it seemed difficult, she sang along with the audio track. Suddenly, the resounding tunes and power of the praise increased, and it felt as if the room itself had become the Church of the Wind. I believed that heaven and earth, under the earth, land, and sea of Okinawa, and everything within them were praising the Lord with us. I was truly moved, realizing just how incredible it is for praise to fill the whole earth.

“Remember these things, O Jacob, and Israel, for you are My servant; I have formed you, you are My servant, O Israel, you will not be forgotten by Me.

I have wiped out your transgressions like a thick cloud and your sins like a heavy mist. Return to Me, for I have

redeemed you.”

Shout for joy, O heavens, for the Lord has done it! Shout joyfully, you lower parts of the earth; Break forth into a shout of joy, you mountains, O forest, and every tree in it; For the Lord has redeemed Jacob and in Israel He shows forth His glory. (Isaiah 44:21–23 NAS)

Near the end, my father, who is lying in bed rang the small bell beside him. Its timing perfectly matched the praise. It was the most beautiful ending! We listened to the recording afterwards and giggled with joy!

I believed that the pain and sorrow left by the Battle of Okinawa, as well as the sins of humanity that led to war, were being swept away like thick clouds by the wind of praise.

I had a vision that the pain and sorrow redeemed by the Lord returned fully to Him. Heaven, earth, and all the suffering caused by the war in Okinawa lifted their voices in praise!

Lord, may Your praise fill the whole earth! May Your peace overflow to the ends of the earth!

P.S. When Minako was preparing to leave Naha Airport in Okinawa, she received a text from her son with a photo of a huge rainbow that had appeared in front of their home in California that day. She said, “I felt no sadness at all while leaving Okinawa and didn’t cry—but when I saw that rainbow, I couldn’t help but burst into tears from joy.”

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