

THINK POSSIBLE.



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CHANCE OF A LIFETIME...

It was the chance of a lifetime. My father had been given an unthinkable opportunity. Tokyo was pulling itself out of the rubble of WW2 bombings in 1955, and dad had an offer to purchase 5 acres in the Tokyo center of Shibuya—for a mere \$800. If you know Tokyo, your jaw probably just hit the floor. If you don't know, Shibuya is famous for the busiest intersection in the world. Shibuya is a very big deal.



The problem, however, was that my parents had sold their home in San Francisco and used all the money for outgoing expenses to Japan. Not having the money themselves, they appealed to the mission to make this incredible purchase. The reply was that the mission was called to work far north in the countryside; Tokyo was not a priority. That chance of a lifetime came, and it went...

Here we are 70 years later. Tokyo is still likely one of the most globally strategic places to invest. Interestingly, the mission that my parents served with is now the mission we serve with, and ironically, basically everyone is in Tokyo. Definitely not "5 acres in the heart of Tokyo" the mission's modest HQ, on the fringe of Tokyo, was sold last year. In that HQ we rented a tiny 6 by 10 ft room—but that is lost. Needless to say, we were frustrated; we lost office space, counseling space, and space to stock vital outreach materials...yes, very frustrated...but then we began to feel it was a God thing.

The more we prayed, the more we felt that God wanted to do more...bigger and better. Thus emerged the dream, the vision for the Tokyo Dream Center—a hub for maximizing revival and outreach in Japan and beyond. God had pushed us out of the nest—to fly.

Do we have the money for it? Not by a long shot. Is it a crazy idea? For sure. Have we confirmed it with God? More times than can be counted! Hoping and wishing it wasn't His will...and at the same time thrilled with the prospect of the miraculous and the building of something that shouts God's greatness in this City of Cities.



With the Church in Japan down-sizing, with missions cutting-back, with so many depressed about decline, we want to push forward in expectation of the coming revival.

In the enclosed pamphlet we mention just three of the ministries planned for the Dream Center, but read on, each one can give you goosebumps...

Dream Center Highlights!

Tokyo Community Care Center

T3C has been offering free mental care for depression recovery for over 16 years, and we are expanding from helping hundreds to assisting thousands with the addition of automated care and online care-giving volunteers. Currently thousands of people every month try to get help for suicidal thoughts on secular hotlines that don't respond. We aim to offer them a mental and spiritual lifeline. You may be aware that the majority of adults who come to Christ, do so because of a difficulty in life—we want to be sure to be there for them then.

Treasure Hunt Project

For 10 years we have operated the Treasure Hunt from our kitchen table and are now helping to mobilize the most gospel-ready and gospel-cooperative demographic—kids—in almost 30 languages. Probably no ministry is more strategic for big effect and future impact than kids and youth, yet so little worldwide aims to mobilize them. Meanwhile, the Treasure Hunt has special focus on the unreached parts of the world. Currently, tens of thousands of kids are meeting Jesus and being mobilized to reach friends through this initiative, and we need a center for operations.

Beyond Boutique

I was a boy when McDonalds and 7-11 first arrived in Japan, and I remember much later when Starbucks got here. Now anywhere you go in Tokyo these franchises hold prime locations for operation (I know of 19 Starbucks in Shibuya!). So, for years I have dreamed about a franchise network that also provides space for outreach and worship, occupying prime locations in cities all over Japan. Beyond Boutique aims to be a drink boutique that offers a uniquely Japan experience of the senses, and where every customer has a spiritually-formative encounter. This multimedia and multi-sensory space will aim to also be a place for a new wineskin style of church for the future. The Dream Center's first floor will be ground zero for the Beyond network.

Awkward Moment...

There is one more piece of history to share. When my father returned to Japan in the 1970's to plant churches in Tokyo, he met with a visiting missions director. But the director told my father that planting churches in Tokyo was not "realistic". My father got to his feet and walked to a window overlooking part of the city and was quiet. Then he asked the missions director what he saw. There was crane after crane building high rises all over the city. And then my father asked the director; "You mean man can do it, and God can't?"

Crickets...



Oh, BTW, in the next several years, 3 churches were planted.

We always praise God for you ... always!

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