

Love & Sex Seminar

by Rev. and Mrs. Nishioka



Many churches and parents feel a great need for teaching on puberty, sexual temptations, dating, and marriage, etc. but the question remains, "WHO is going to talk to them about this?" Many feel inadequate to bring it up.

This past March, Shimoyamaguchi Christ Church in Saitama, decided to hold their own love and sex seminar. 83 people showed up for the seminar from 8 churches. This article is an interview with Pastor and Mrs. Nishioka about how it was implemented.

Some of the main topics covered in the interview were, planning the seminar, leader selection, differences between guys and gals, lively discussion on knowing how far one can go physically, and straight talk with guys about porn.

Jesus Lifehouse

Interview with Rod Plummer



Is it possible to reach large numbers of Japanese young adults for Christ? A survey of typical churches around Japan would seem to indicate the answer is "No". This issue we are featuring an interview with a pastor who gives a resounding "Yes" - Jesus Lifehouse pastor, Rod Plummer. Rod became a Christian at age 19, while working as a fireman. Later, he became a missionary to Thailand, and a pastor of a 1000 member church near Brisbane, Australia. His ministry in Japan began 7 years ago, when he came to Japan with his wife Viviana, and his two sons, Monty (16) and Richie (12). He started, and continues to lead the 800 member Jesus Lifehouse Church in Akasaka, Tokyo. He belongs to the Hillsong Group of pastors.

Grief Care Part 2

by Junko Murakami

Lecturer, Seigakuin University

"Talking to Children about death may not be easy but it is very important...Sooner or later they are going to experience a death in their lives...Fears and misunderstanding can be avoided if we take the time to explain what happens to a person when he dies... The important thing is to create an atmosphere where they can freely express what they are feeling."

As a help for guiding our conversation with our children, Prof. Murakami shares the dialog exchange between she and her daughter about the death of a little girl in their Sunday school



Q & A: Ask Pastor Hori

Q: Our son graduated college and got a job but quit because he just couldn't get used to it. He went job-searching but soon gave up and now he lives at home. He's now in his 30's, doesn't seem to have any interest in going out, and



mostly stays in his room. What are we to do?

A: Summary of the answer include, avoiding escalation of hikikomori (withdrawing), listening to and relating in a warm accepting way, and avoiding quick-fix methods.

Dressing Modestly

by Jon Benedict

Whereas the media is having a huge influence on how our daughters dress, I Tim. 2:9 says "I also want women to dress modestly, with decency and propriety.". How do we teach our girls to dress in such a way that they bring glory to God? In this series on fatherhood, Jon Benedict shares about 1. the meaning of purity in dress, 2. the test for whether the dress is appropriate, 3. not causing a brother to stumble, and 4. the role of the father in shaping a daughter's values.



Marriage Seminar Part 2

by Sung Mook Kim

I met a man in Australia who had been married 23 years who had not told his wife "I love you" during those years and he said he had a reason. He said that he told her he loved her many times during courtship and told her so very clearly when he proposed. "I will love you and you only for the rest of my life." So he didn't need to tell her "I love you" anymore.

But this man came to the Fatherhood School and was given an assignment to go home, to give his wife a hug, and tell her "I love you". So that day he went home to his wife whom he found in the kitchen washing dishes and so he gently hugged her from behind and said "I love you."

His wife was completely surprised and was delighted to hear those words for the first time in 23 years. The next day he went home early and hugged his wife who met him at the door and again he said "I love you."

With a happy expression on her face and tears in her eyes, he said his wife didn't want to leave his embrace. He wondered to himself why she had tears in her eyes. He realized that he had been disinterested in his wife and He didn't really know her. So he asked her to forgive him.

I believe those are the tears of all the wives in the world.



Koji Kaneko's Family Talk

Saying "I'm sorry" is probably the most difficult words to speak for anyone. Men often misunderstand the significance of apologizing and think that to say "I'm sorry" is to give in and to lose one's authority as the head of the home. However, in actuality the opposite is true. Men gain trust and respect with their wives and children when they humble themselves.

There are no perfect parents and the goal of parenting is not to produce perfect children either. The goal, through our own example, is to raise children who will be kind, honest, and respectful in spite of our imperfections.

