

## Evangelism In Your Own Family Interview: Pastor Mitsutaka Mouri



A pastor of Sapporo Gospel Family Church gives his testimony, as well as how he guided his grandmother who was on her death bed. The key ministry to one's own family is not to force or pressure them to believe, or even to stop them worshipping those idols. Pastor Mouri says that he even helped his family at the Buddhist burial and grave while refusing to worship those. Eventually, his serving the family in practical ways while remaining faithful to his own beliefs softened his family members' hearts and over time one by one they accepted Christ as their Savior.

## Parenting for Beginners No.9



**Q. I am a working mother with one child. How can I manage my time to enrich**

our family life in our busy schedules?

A. Time management is the key for a busy mother and one way is to create a fixed schedule. In our home, we have set times for supper, ofuro, shopping, and house cleaning. Everyone has chores and even Dad is expected to help around the house. I guess we had to do it this way since raising 10 children could really bring confusion in our home life. Although in the beginning it may feel inhibitive, schedules actually free you up to enjoy life.



## How Do We Lead Our Children to Christ? Part 2

By Shinzo Omura



Child Evangelism Fellowship Japan has a very useful way of guiding children to Christ. It's called Fukuin no Te (Gospel Hand). Using five fingers, we can teach them who Jesus is and how He can save them...

As parents, we can show them how to be saved. Look for that opportunity to tell them. The best timing is when they have done something wrong. As you tell them what they did wrong, you can also tell them that they are sinners just like we parents are! And show them the way to be forgiven! And remember, it is God's work to save a child. We are not the ones to save them, so relax and try many times until they get it and accept it.

## IT and Children –Addicted to Smart Phones? By Takashi Horii



Many children today own smart phones and with that comes many potential problems. One of them is called Sumaho Chudoku (smart phone addiction). Addiction can be triggered by various apps. One is a free app that is called "LINE," which is an SNS that enables users to chat/video talk/talk very quickly. In Japan, LINE is more popular than facebook or twitter among the younger generation.

The reason why they can get hooked is because of a feature on the app which compels you to keep answering. For example, when someone sends a message to a friend and it has been viewed by that person, it is marked as Kidoku. And if that friend does not return a message, it remains marked as Kidoku. It means that that person is now ignoring the friend, called Kidoku Mushi. Doing Kidoku Mushi is considered very rude and it could lead to bullying. So often young people feel compelled to stay on their smart phones lest they be late to reply and to prevent gossip about them while they are logged off.

My suggestion to solve this problem is for the parents to set the rules, stick to it, and make sure your kids' friends know about it.

## Ask Pastor Hori



**Q. Being 70s makes me feel too old to serve in the church. I cannot work like I used to do, but is there a way for me to do something for the Lord?**

A. For the mature generation, "being" is more important than "doing." What you can do physically may be limited now, but showing your faith and how you are living by your faith will help and encourage the younger generation.

Taking a big responsibility could be too much for you now, so find something that is easier for you to do at church. Some things you may be able to do are, greeting new visitors, assisting in children's ministry and maybe help in cleaning the church.

To the pastors, I would suggest that you provide opportunity for the elderly to serve in the church. Taking away work from the elderly can cause them to disconnect and withdraw from the church and society. So, however small the service, encourage them to find something they can do for the church so they can stay connected with the body of Christ.

