

## Japanese missionaries Fund Raising in Manchester

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July 29, 2016



About 14 days ago Matthew [Huish] called me suggesting the idea that the 4 missionaries visit Manchester to Fund raise and in the process develop their English and get to know the British culture. The thing was, with a lot of plans of our own I knew it would not be easy to balance business, home repairs and 4 children who just broke up for Summer Holidays. I thought God was telling us, whatever our own situation and wherever we are, what a blessing to have the opportunity to serve Mother through supporting her missionaries. My wife she was encouraging me and suggesting that she was on board. So, my wife and I said yes.

The first thought that came is that I need support the Missionaries to get them into Fundraising. Then God reminded me that a good 2nd gen friend of mine from STF, an Italian brother was now living in Edinburgh. I knew he was working for Ryan Air and I asked if he knew anyone who was up for Fund Raising for a few days. He remarkably said he was off of work for the next 3 days and could come to show the sisters the ropes. In a few days they were with us and Simone arrived knowing he was on call for that 1st day, even though he believed he would not be called that day, if it was God's plan. I was very touched by not only his willingness to be an example but also to put the missionaries first and trust God.



Tomoko san, their mother figure asked us to welcome them, which we translated as making them part of our family so, we took them on trips with our family each day to the park, on a picnic and to mini golf and to the shopping Mall to make life exciting but at the same time did 4 hours of Fundraising each day. I organised good area for them and dropping them off and picking them up every two hours. Two of them, Aya and Koari the team leaders (as STF Japan graduates) had some Fund Raising experience that they could teach the other two missionaries Norika and Yoshika, who had no prior experience. I began with a half day workshop which started with Simone showing the missionaries our western culture. Aya became the translator for the afternoon service "Kick off" with her speaking the

best English. As time has passed all of the missionaries are quickly becoming more confident, with three of them giving their daily reports in English. Galina, my wife cooked international food for them to show them British, Russian and European cuisine which was always exciting for them. In reality, rather than being a distraction from our children, the four sisters spend lots of time with them entertaining them playing sports and games each day. I think the girls are learning English probably more from them than us.



They are using a mixture of Japanese products and Russian hand made items that we have in our home. They have had lots of good experiences this first week with very kind and amazing British people. Yesterday they hit their new record of £150 from two people. The money, of course, has not been the main point and now their focus is building the foundation and condition for their spiritual children in their witnessing. It has been an exciting first week with them developing the desperate heart of salvation for each person. We just left for a few days, and upon leaving they made us a surprise. They cooked us some homemade cookies and

put our names and our children's on them. It was a lovely thought. When we welcomed them initially we wondered what was God's plan for them but I think we have learned so much and our children have been really introduced into a public life, listening to their prayers and sharing. Whilst being away, two of our families (having met them on Sunday) offered themselves to support them, in their homes, during their mission for this week we're away.

Written by Dale Rose, FFWPU Manchester Pastor