

565 Taisho Dōri, Minami Takeya Cho,
Hiroshima Japan, April 17th, 1923.

Rev. D. I. Jeffrey,
Tourane Annam,
Fr. Indo China.

Dear Ivory and Ruth:-

Your letter of March 21st. received a few days ago. You need not think that just because I am answering it so soon that I have all kinds of time on my hands. If you want to know the truth I will tell you that although your letter came about a week ago, I haven't had time to read it until this morning. Grace opened and read it at once but I have not been able to get my head up out of the waters of work for some weeks. Then again I wouldn't take the trouble these busy days to write ordinary folk, so you can think this over and try and get some idea of what I think of you.

Of course I enjoyed every word of the short note you wrote. I don't think it is fair that you write such little letters, don't you know that it takes only about two minutes to read them and that there are piles of other things we would like to know? I think you had better "kuiartame nasai" and do better the next time or I will have to run over there and give you both a lecture.

Now Ivory you need not think that you can get ahead of me either with your good news. I am taking good care of a sweet little girl over here too and about the end of June I am going to send you some of the best news you ever heard. So there now, we are both happy aren't we? Ah dear Boy, since our Heavenly Father took that sweet little fellow to His own home my heart has refused to be entirely comforted. Of course, knowing that it was His will, I would not have had it otherwise, for I have learned only too well that out of His will is pain, sadness, death, hell. Jesus knows best and what He does, satisfies me and makes me happy. I truly rejoice that my dear little boy is safe with Him, but just the same my heart is lonely and has been ever since. Now it seems as if the dear Lord is going to comfort me. Oh Ivory I am so fond of "little tads" and my arms seem empty all the time when there isn't one in the home. I can understand how very happy you two must be. I shall be praying for you. Don't worry about anything, there is a promise in the Word for just such a time, found in 1 Tim. 2:15. Isn't it wonderful that the Holy Spirit placed those words in one of the Pastoral Epistles? I take it that Timothy being a pastor he should know this in order to instruct and comfort any of his flock in such circumstances. Well Hallalujah! I really don't know whether that is the reason or not but anyway it isn't a bad thought after all is it? We are expecting to go to Kobe for the occasion and whether we can go on for a little rest after to get away from the heat or not I do not know. We are leaving all this in God's hands.

Our Annual Missionary Conference has just come to a close and oh if I wasn't busy. Now I must prepare another long report for the Annual Japanese Conference. Well, I was again nominated by the Conference for the Chairmanship. I refused twice but it was no good, I had to take it, so once more I will take up these heavy duties and endeavor by the Grace of God to help steer the Alliance in Japan to blessed victory. God is doing wonderful things here. I think the time has come when Japan needs a Japanese Alliance. Our field cannot be compared with other fields along certain lines. The time is ripe for forming such an Alliance here. Many Godly men and women are now working alone having stepped out from the churches

they belonged to in order to serve God freely. I have not time now dear old Boy to go into this with you and make explanations but suffice it to say that the Home Board is very pleased and we are all enthusiastic about it. I have received two letters from the Board and they give their hearty approval of it. However until we are a little farther on please keep this to yourself. If we can see ~~it~~ started in Japan what dear old Dr. Simpson started years ago in America I believe that the most wonderful thing will happen for this Island Empire that has ever happened. All this has been so full of responsibility that at times I have been obliged to especially seek the face of the Lord. I had to run the risk of misunderstanding with the Board but Hallelujah, they understood and are with us. Our school problem will then be solved, although I believe that if necessary we could carry it on as it is now trusting God to improve it as the days went by.

You will have to excuse me for a little while now, I have to go out. When I come back this afternoon I will try to finish it, and if I cannot do it then, I will do it to-night or to-morrow. Good-bye.

Well I am back again and it is five o'clock. Perhaps I can get a long start on the finish of this letter before supper.

I read with much interest the letter which you said you sent home. I can appreciate every word of it. Lately I have not had to get up as early as that but get to bed almost as late as that. Perhaps that is "stretching" it a little but really we seldom get to bed before eleven and after. Yet it is good to be able to preach freely the Gospel in the native tongue, isn't it? Every Sunday morning I have a Bible Class in Japanese and the Lord has exceedingly blessed it. I really enjoy preaching in Japanese. I count that Class my own as I have full charge of it. There are four other meetings during the week, but I do not share the full responsibility of them. To-night there is a special meeting on for the Christians at which I expect great blessing.

In the fall I expect to move away from Hiroshima. I have a territory of 1,500,000 souls to evangelize. Mr. Barber and I are the only two who are working among this vast population, so I must get a little farther into the country. I want to go to a town called Kabe where for years they have withstood the Gospel. The early missionaries were stingy with the people years ago and Kabe hardened itself. I do not know how I shall be able to reach them but God--but faith---but prayer---. I hope that you will pray that I may get a house if it is God's will and win many souls for the Master even in that awful town.

If it is the Lord's will we will be going home next year. Our seven years are coming to a close. However if Daddy Zimmerman is not better we may wait as the shock of our going home might take him off. Then we would like to remember him as we last saw him. You know that he had a stroke, didn't you? I tell you dear Ivory that there are many awaiting our coming on the other side. I long to go myself when it is the will of the Father. Oh God has taught me so many precious things since our coming to Japan. I often wish I had a few hours to spend with you. How often I think of the old days; the happy times in the Tab. on the street corner, in my attic and other places. For a long time I have not felt that wonderful old spirit of prayer upon me but last Sunday evening the same spirit of prayer came upon me and although I was praying in Japanese yet it thrilled me through and through. The following night was the same. Perhaps God is about to do something new in our midst. Hallelujah!

Well don't you think that I have written a long enough letter. I will come to boasting and say that it beats yours all hollow. Well just understand that even if you cannot write a long one write a little one again and you will always find a hearty response from your old friend and brother in the Lord.

Do you ever write the boys? And do you ever get answers from them? Where is your Daddy now and what is Alice doing? When do you go home on furlough? Is Ruth's home in Canada or not? Do you think that there is ever a chance of meeting you two before the Lord comes providing He tarries five years more? Well I have kept you long enough now so will close. If ever you meet Brother Groupe tell him that we cried when we read the account of Sister Group's loneliness trial and sorrow. Tell them that we often think of them though I guess that that would help them much. But what a wonderful privilege they have, suffering away there for Jesus. I will be happy when I stand by them and see them get their crown. I often think of Brother Groupe's fine voice. It seems to me to be like a flower wasting its fragrance on the desert air. In the eyes of the world he would be called a fool to sacrifice such a future for a bunch of heathen, but then from our side and God's side such a sacrifice is treasured up to receive everything back again in resurrection interest. For every seed planted you know hundreds will be reaped. Glory to God! Then even if men are not around to praise and admire, God loves to smell the flowers of the desert and I am sure that Brother Groupe has often a Heavenly audience unknown to him. Dear Sister Groupe, we can enter into every heart pang, every sorrow, every trial for we have passed along that same way, and many others have too and are passing that way this day. Tell them not to be discouraged, in other places of the world there are many who are going through with it for God, just as they are. I wish I could comfort them, but we are all poor comforters anyway.

Well good-bye. God bless you both. I love you deeply in the Lord. Pray for this poor old stick over here.

Yours in His blessed service,

*C. P. Green. I made a
mistake let me sign it right
Lucy.*

P.S. Grace and my Ruth send love to Mrs. Jeffrey.