

# Expanding Influence

## Aug-Sep 2017 -Japan Ministry Spotlights and Prayer

John and Elaine Mehn

Does God ever surprise you? When we returned in January we had no idea the expanding influence there would be for church planting vision for Japan. Influence was building late last year, but this year John has been scrambling to keep up with the developments. There are several streams of interconnected movements and leaders partnering together toward a Japan national church planting initiative to see the dream of over 50,000 churches in Japan. If you remember last month we reported on the cutting-edge Vision Festa held in Sendai in July. We also are anticipating the 2017 Japan CPI Conference coming up this October which maybe one of the largest church planting conferences in Japan.

The influence and vision is not just for the nation of Japan but for all of East Asia. You may remember John traveling to Indonesia and Budapest a few years ago. Well the East Asia regional group of Global Church Planting Network resulted from those travels. This same group will gather in Japan for the first regional network meeting. Teams will join the Japan team from Mongolia, South Korea, Taiwan, and China and other countries to plan church multiplication strategies for our respective countries. We are praying for a dream team for Japan of 6-10 key national leaders. We anticipate 15-30 total leaders to gather on September 26-28 in Ikoma city in the Kansai area. John has several responsibilities including scheduling, program, and other matters. Just before this meeting on September 25-26 is a national mission forum follow-up from last year's Congress on Evangelism. Our project team Church Multiplication will be meeting to plan for future influence. Ask God for strength and blessing through travels, responsibilities, and influential discussions.



### GOD ANSWERED

1. Our mini-tour to the US is nearly completed. We return to Japan August 18<sup>th</sup>. The time has been extremely busy but very rewarding. We visited two churches and one pastoral couple while driving 2,000 miles. Elaine had a family reunion, John met doctors and dentists, and we both had great times with our children and grandchildren.
2. The CPI Conference preparations continue Japan National CPI Conference, October 25-27. Pray as September and October are known as “crunch months.”

Registrations are nearly 400 people at this point, making it one of the largest ever. We have a great team of speakers including Joshua Harris and Robert Greene from Acts 29. If you are interested all information is at [www.conf.jcpi.net](http://www.conf.jcpi.net).



## PRAYER PARTNER SPOTLIGHTS

1. Pray for Elaine's classes as they restart up from the summer. Also pray for progress on her three books in the final stages.
2. John's book "Multiplying Churches in Japanese Soil" is in the last phases and is expected to go to the printer at the end of August. Pray for this continued smooth progress. Looks like it will be ready for the CPI Conference in October. We hope this book will be an influence motivating people to pray for Japan, start more churches, and be more effective in "best practices" in Japan.
3. Several key meetings this month including Rengo National Evangelism, Converge Japan Team, and on September 5-6 CPI Leadership Team retreat.

## BE INVOLVED IN INFLUENCE

Our support is in good shape. We would appreciate if you would consider special gifts or a small increase in our support so we can maintain this.

## NEW VIDEO FOR YOUR WORSHIP OR SMALL GROUP

John made a video when he was in the disaster area last month. John talks about the recovery efforts after 6 years and evangelism and church planting ministry in the Tohoku area.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CezRCY6WAw0>

## INTENSIVE PRAYER TEAM

John and Elaine Mehn - Converge International Ministries - Missionaries to Japan  
*Accelerating Spiritual Renewal and Church Multiplication Movements*

See more information at [www.GOSpelRest.com](http://www.GOSpelRest.com) or see us both on [Facebook](#).