



基督改革派日本伝道会

christian reformed japan mission

〒203 東久留米市新川町1-15-24 A
1-15-24A Shinkawa-Cho,
Higashi Kurume Shi, Tokyo 203 JAPAN
Tel: 0424 (73) 0380 Fax: 0424 (74) 9307

June 18, 1996

Members of the kingdom of God and the church of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Dear brother and sisters,

Recently I had the privilege of meeting and working briefly with Mr. Nate Butler, a very talented comic strip ("manga") artist who is endeavoring to expand the use of his media to advance the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Nate came to Japan last month on his return from leading seminars and training sessions in several Southeast Asian countries; during his visit, I was able to arrange meetings with several Japanese artists and representatives of several Christian publishing companies, as well as to set up opportunities for Nate to minister with his unique gifts at the Christian Academy in Japan (Tokyo) and at the International Chapel in Ikoma (Nara). It was Nate's first visit to Japan, and it was a time of making contacts and exploring possibilities.

I was impressed by Nate's talents and presentations and with the possibilities of using this medium to communicate the truths of God's Word and the claims of Jesus Christ to a very large segment of the population which otherwise might never have the opportunity to hear the Good News. Before and after Nate's visit I and several others have noticed a spate of articles in international newspapers dealing with the comic-book phenomenon in Japan. I also noted in the meetings at the Word of Life Press headquarters a very deep interest among the staff of WLP and a longing among the artists in attendance for renewed efforts to use this means for outreach. Nate's visit was the occasion for some good networking and stimulated the vision of those he met to use all means to preach the Gospel, and particularly to continue to explore the possibilities of producing Christian manga in various formats. Nate also showed a very admirable attitude of service as he spent an entire day ministering to the students of CAJ, most of whom are missionary kids, trying to inspire this new generation as well to catch on to his evangelistic zeal.

It is my prayer that Nate can continue to be the catalyst for new efforts in outreach. I am happy to commend Nate to you for your support and to challenge you to catch his vision for a type of outreach which the Lord will surely be pleased to use to reach many for himself.

Respectfully in Christ,

Lawrence K. Spalink
Church Planter & Field Director
Christian Reformed Japan Mission