

RUSSIAN MISSIONS

July 19, 2010

Serving Christ in Russia since 1996

THE PLASTERS



Kevin and Tammy

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MAY 30, 2010

My heart was pounding. The carotid artery on the left side of my neck was visibly throbbing.

NOW, THE REST OF THE STORY

May 23rd Mr. Hayashi, working with the Japanese Consulate of St Petersburg, Russia, came to church for the first time at Yoko's request. Afterward we ate lunch together and, to make a long story short, he repented of sins and trusted Christ as Savior.

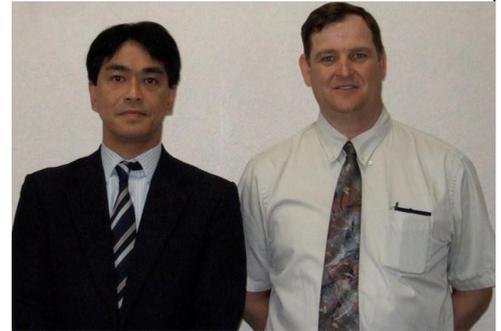
May 30th he returned to church and stayed for some time afterward asking more questions about his eternal welfare. For some reason he began recounting events that took place in World War II about a Japanese officer beheading an American soldier.

This is when my heart rate went totally beserk. I've heard the stories and studied some of the events that took place during WWII. But, I have never heard them recounted by a Japanese man and was surprised by the way my body reacted. Besides that, I didn't know what his objective was in recalling the story.

The story of this American soldier puzzled Mr Hayashi. Just before being beheaded he asked God to forgive his captors of their deeds. He didn't pray for God to keep them from killing him, but asked God to forgive his murderers. Mr. Hayashi explained, "It is necessary to know the God whose followers forgive and ask Him to forgive those causing them pain." This American soldier left a legacy that is still impacting souls for the cause of Christ today.

TWO LESSONS

1. God uses many things besides my meager efforts to bring a soul to Christ.
2. Maybe God will be able to use my efforts long after I am dead and gone.



JARED AND ARINA PLASTER

Saturday, July 10, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. in Bretten, Germany they became husband and wife.

They plan to make their home in Germany where Jared will teach at the Black Forest Academy in Kondern, and Arina will continue her university education.

Her father pastors a church in Gochsheim, Germany. Her Grandfather is Ukrainian and was very excited that I am also Baptist and a minister of the Gospel. We had those two things in common. He continuously told me, "Now, like it or not, we're kinfolk!"

