



## John and Eriko Houlette

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in Japan and Greater Asia**

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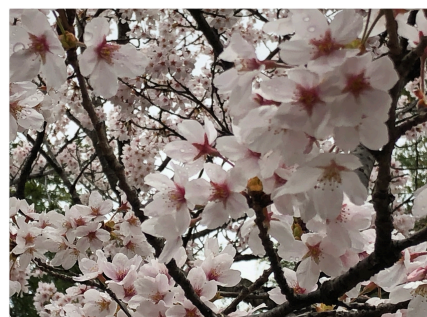
***Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. Isaiah 43:19***

### Resiliency Re-defined

**S**hake, spread and wobble. Those action verbs accurately describe our life these last few months. In March and April we experienced 7.2 and 7.1 earthquakes respectively, and several aftershocks as well. (The picture on the right is of my study after the first quake.) We are fine. Since March, Sendai has seen an increase in COVID cases, and we will not be able to travel the 50 miles each way to our church in Fukushima until after May 13. On April 5, I experienced a bout of nausea and dizziness. After several tests, including an MRI, and an IV, all systems checked out fine, but I have some balance issues. As I write this, after some rest and stress reduction, I am about 90% recovered, walking with a slight wobble.



In many ways, God is teaching me about restoration through adversity. **Resiliency** is the title of my book, and proved to be a difficult term to render into Japanese, so my book translator and editor used two words to define it. It is a restorative process (再起力) in times of adversity (逆境).



**C**herry blossoms are a great resiliency metaphor. They are a bridge from a dark and harsh winter to a bright and beautiful spring. We see ministry blooming. At **Hokushin Calvary Church**, the Kid's Cafe continues with drop-in tutoring on weeknights. The Orange (Mental Health) Cafe re-started this month with 15 in attendance and three visitors. Mr. Harumi has made some progress in his pursuit of faith. We look forward to re-starting our study in May when we can attend services again. People in the church are following up with him. I am working with Pastor Kuba to help him in his vision to

launch small group ministries later this year.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Pray for the printing and sales of my book, **Resilience: How Japanese Pastors Can Thrive in Every Season**. I hope to teach the contents to pastors through the Sendai Baptist Seminary from the fall.
2. That Eriko and I can be vaccinated soon.
3. For my counseling and mentoring ministry with pastors.
4. For our Home Assignment from July 6 to August 21.
5. For the renewal of John's driver's license this summer.

### Support needed:

**\$150/month**

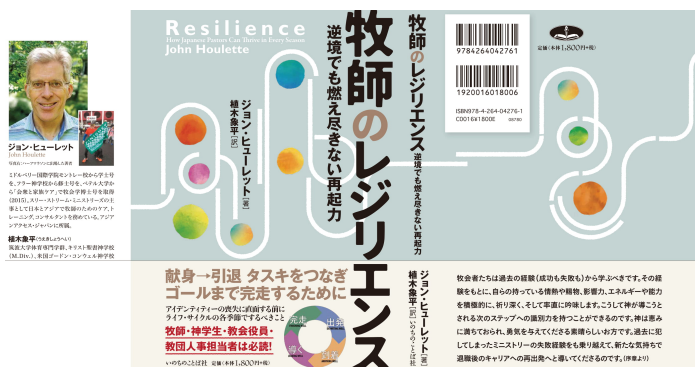
### Send financial gifts to:

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Make checks out to: SIMUSA  
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**www.simusa.org/give** click  
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Eriko facilitated a mock trial in Japanese with the high school department at **Tohoku International School** recently, which included a famous Japanese lawyer coaching the students and a Christian nurse practitioner talking about the meaning of life. John continues to counsel, mentor and consult with pastors, missionaries and churches.

**Resilience: How Japanese Pastors Can Thrive in Every Season** The Japanese version is done! It has been translated and edited and is being printed. It should be in bookstores early in June.



**Day of Prayer for Our Supporters** I continue to take the first day of the month to pray for you, our support team. Would you consider sharing your requests with me? You may email, text, call or message me. The next time will be on May 1 (April 30 US time).

**New Web Site!** I have launched a new web site to provide training resources and promote Three Stream Ministries. It will be a bilingual site. If you have purchased my book, you will find it helpful.  
[www.threestreamministries.com](http://www.threestreamministries.com).



Eriko and I thank you so much for your faithful financial and prayer support especially during this difficult pandemic.

Partnering with you in ministry in Japan and Greater Asia,

*John and Eriko*