



Second Level
セカンドレベル

Spring 2022

Making a Difference Through Discipling

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,"
(Matthew 28:19 ESV)

2021 Mentorship Online Conference

During three Saturdays In October, 2021, Second Level hosted the Mentorship Conference online. This conference was geared to train Japanese disciple makers and aimed to equip each participant to put what they have learned into practice in their own churches and personal ministries.

We are thankful for this wonderful opportunity that 60 Japanese believers were able to gather and learn about discipleship. We were excited to have a special group for pastors. Following the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20), we provided Japanese believers with discipleship opportunities, training, resources, community, and encouragement for spiritual growth.

Under the theme of 'Discovery', the program was focused on discovering about ourselves, God's will, and how to serve others. Our speaker, Rev. Toyoda (New Life Christian Church) gave us three messages that touched on critical issues of Christian identity and God's desire for us to serve for one another. Rev. Toyoda encouraged us to accept ourselves in His gaze and surrender ourselves out of love for God, so that we can love others with His love. All of our journeys to discover our true identity in Christ continues. Many attendees expressed that this conference exceeded their expectations, and more than anything, they were touched by what God taught them. Out of this conference, we have many people who started mentorship, accountability partners, or IBS (Inductive Bible Study) that we introduced as a discipleship tool.

After the conference, we also had two follow up meetings where we brainstormed some action plans! We long for the Japanese believers' awakening and transformational discovery! Please lift up the Japanese believers' awakening and transformational discovery in your prayers!



Workshops from the Conference:

"Listening to the Inner Voice" by Rev. Naohiro Ueda

"Discipleship and Mission" by Hiroo Kuge

"Boundaries that are Helpful for Mentoring" by Yumi Morse Ikeda

Attendees were challenged in each session. In Rev. Ueda's session, they learned the importance of quieting our spirit so that we can hear God better. Being in God's presence also helps us to be honest with ourselves, thus it brings new discoveries in our hearts. Mr. Kuge's workshop was a testimony of his discipleship journey. His experience in God's guidance brought deep encouragement and a challenge to minister to others. Mrs. Ikeda, who is the Soul Care director of Second Level Ministry, offered a lot of practical tips in relationship with others, considering some deep human needs. Attendees learned what they need to be aware of particularly in mentoring.

Testimonies



Praise the name of the Lord!

My name is Masako Nagaoka, and I participated in the Mentorship Conference in October 2021 from San Jose, CA. To be honest, I was not sure if I would be able to participate in all of the programs considering the time difference and other factors, but I decided to apply for only the parts I could participate in.

I thought it would be difficult to attend all the small groups due to the time difference, but when I realized that I was in charge of leading the small groups, and when I participated as if I was being pushed from the back, I was moved by the fact that I was connected with people from Aichi, Osaka, and Hawaii by God's guidance. After the conference, I was led to be a mentor for one of the sisters I met at the conference, and we currently have a time of fellowship and mentoring once every two weeks.

Five years ago, I was in the middle of a trial, and I was given a mentor through Second Level Ministry. As I have a time of prayer and fellowship, I remember the days when I overcame hardships with the help of regular fellowship, prayers, and wisdom from the mentor who supported me at that time. It was unthinkable back then, but the fact that I can be protected by the Lord, fellowship with my sisters, and pray together is wonderful. I have learned once again that God has an immense plan for each of us.

Keeping in mind the trials and experiences I have been through and what I have learned, I would like to fellowship and pray so that we can pray, cry, and laugh together while delicately feeling the hearts and spirituality of our sisters.

*"Mentoring is a guidance of spiritual growth during which a mentor prayerfully and intentionally guides and walks alongside a mentee."
"The approach is personal, intentional, and strategic." - Second Level Ministry*

With gratitude,
Masako Nagaoka



Inductive Bible Study

In the program called Discovery 1, "Me in Christ", we practiced how to notice emotions. We noted from the movement in our hearts, with stories and self-reflection, then examined where the emotions came from. This reflection brought deep self-discovery. In Discovery 2, "What is IBS?", we exercised how to digest God's word, utilizing IBS (Inductive Bible Study) method. IBS focuses on observation with careful examination, interpretation with a seeking heart, and application with a willingness and obedience. The program coordinators created a video guide for IBS, so please check it out and pass it onto Japanese speakers.



<https://bit.ly/SLIBS>

You can also find more videos on Second Level Ministry's Youtube page:

"Second Level Ministry"





Overflowing June 24 & 25 2022

Theme: Overflowing

Psalm 23:5 “You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.”

June 24th (Friday) and 25th (Saturday), 2022

Dunwoody Baptist Church
1445 Mt Vernon Rd
Dunwoody GA 30338

Living water from God overflows to us and to others so that all may have life to the fullest. Christ pours into us so we can pour into others. At this Mentorship Conference, let’s come experience the God of sufficiency (or abundance) and learn how we can be a blessing for others!

This Conference is for those who are:

- Seeking to be an effective disciple maker
- Desiring to learn about mentorship
- Wanting to learn more about ministering Japanese



Special Speaker Profile of Rev. Iwao Satoh:

Graduated from Tokyo Christian Theological Seminary. Pastored at Cumberland Presbyterian Sagamino Church for 10 years. Graduated from Memphis Theological Seminary in TN. Currently, he is the Pastor of Louisville Japanese Christian Church in Kentucky. Rev. Iwao and his wife, Tsuruko are parents to Fumika and Tabito. His hobbies are outdoor activities and growing vegetables.

Pricing:

Early Bird (Until April 30th): \$75

After May 1st: \$85

Registration and Schedule

MentorshipConference.org

Second Level’s 20th Anniversary Celebration

You Are Invited! 20th Anniversary Celebration Dinner

“God’s Faithfulness Through the Years”

June 23rd, Thursday, 2022
Dunwoody Baptist Church 1445 Mt. Vernon Rd Dunwoody, GA 30338

In person and online (Zoom).
Please choose your preference.

5:30pm Registration
6:00pm Dinner*
7:00pm ~ 8:30pm (EST) Celebration (Zoom will be open at 6:45)

*Complimentary dinner included at the site.
Please RSVP to <https://tinyurl.com/slanniversary> by June 15th, 2022



Staff Co-Laborers

Team Unity in Co-laboring with Christ

By Matthew Barany, National Director of Mobilization

What a unique blessing it is to co-labor with Christ to see His kingdom advance. Personally, it is also a joy and privilege of mine to serve alongside our wonderful and talented staff. We had the first bi-annual team gathering, and our time together was a huge blessing. Our Second Level staff continue to serve with full hearts and are content with how God has called them. Meeting together allows us to build team unity, bond deeper, fellowship, and share what God is doing.

Our team shares a common bond regarding the Great Commission calling and the vision and mission of Second Level. First, we are unified through Jesus as one body, the Church. Second, we are unified in seeing the Gospel preached to all peoples, specifically the Japanese. Third, we are unified in our desire to see more disciples raised up and become trained disciple makers. Fourth, we are unified in that we recognize our roles with the Second Level team and utilize our giftings accordingly for the glory of God. As I think of our team, I am encouraged and recall Paul's words to the church in Philippi. He says, "then make my joy complete by being like minded, having the same love, being in one spirit and of one mind" (Philippians 2:2). The Apostle Paul was hopeful to see his joy made complete in the work started by the body of Christ who were to be mutually respectful and understanding towards one another while also sharing the same love, spirit, and mind as they served together and to others. Similarly, the Second Level staff is united in seeking the Lord for vision, direction, and clarity so that we can effectively serve in one accord, each of us contributing to God's overall kingdom work through our organization! Please pray for us!



Staff Needed

Our team is looking for men and women who can share our disciple making vision and serve together! Here are some of the desired roles:

- **Discipleship Director:** Someone to promote and lead discipleship. Someone who is aligned with Second Level's vision, value and relational approach. First language must be Japanese.
- **Soul Care Workers:** Particularly counselors with disciple-making values. Male or female, any nationality, must have a heart for Japan.
- **Graphic Designer and Social Media Communication:** Both are volunteer-based roles

If you or anyone you know is interested in these roles, please contact us at: dainidankai@secondlevel.org

20th Anniversary Campaign—Goal: \$40,440 (20 years x 2022)

To celebrate this pivotal moment in our history, we launched a special fund-raising campaign that honors God and intentionally plant "seeds" for our future vision. It is a God-sized goal, but God has been faithful in the past and we trust He will be faithful in the future! We would like to invite you to join us and become a partner as we commemorate 20 years of ministry in a special way.

1. Within Japan

Yuucho Bank

Kigou 14160 / Bango 71120121
Second Level Ministry

Mitsui Sumitomo Bank

Hirakata Branch Futsuu 4382951

2. Within U.S.

(Checks Payable To)

Second Level Ministry
2841 Greystone Lane
Atlanta, GA 30341

3. Anywhere in the World



(by credit card)
paypal.com

Please send contributions to:
dainidankai@secondlevel.org

Zelle Donations now accepted, learn more at zellepay.com

Second Level Ministry is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and is therefore tax exempt. All gifts are tax-deductible.



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2841 Greystone Lane
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(770) 316-8712
secondlevel.org
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