Even when Eric Liddell was a little boy, he was fast. He loved to run, and he loved to run fast. When he was a teenager in Scotland, teachers and coaches saw that he could win almost any race. His favorite race was the 100-meter race. He was fast enough to qualify for the 1924 Olympics in Paris, France. He couldn’t wait to represent Scotland at the Olympics! It was a dream come true!

Eric believed that he should not compete on Sundays. He took that day to worship and pray, as he had learned from the Bible: “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy” (Exodus 20:8). When he found out that he would have to run the 100-meter races on Sunday, he had a decision to make: miss out on his dream or be obedient to what God was telling him to do. He chose to be obedient and dropped out the 100-meter race. Instead, he chose to run two other races that wouldn’t be on Sunday, even though those weren’t his best races.

God blessed his decision. Eric won the gold medal in the 400-meter race and a bronze medal for the 200-meter race. God made Eric fast for a reason, and Eric chose to honor God in all things. People all over the world heard about Jesus because Eric said, “Not on Sunday.”
1. Eric Liddell was born in 1942 in China. He was the son of missionaries.

2. Eric went to school in London with his brother and then went to a university in Scotland.

3. Eric won a gold medal and a bronze medal at the 1924 Olympics in Paris, France.

4. After the Olympics, Eric became a missionary to China, where he taught school and told people about Jesus.

5. During World War II, it became very dangerous for his family in China. His wife and children left for Canada where they would be safe. Eric stayed in China.

6. Eric was put in a war camp with other missionaries and died there in 1945.
**Connect 2020**

**Connecting Japanese People to God**
We deeply desire to see Japanese people come to know the Lord. Before, during, and after the Olympics, there will be lots of opportunities to share the Good News with Japanese people who do not yet know God. We also desire to see Japanese believers enter into deeper relationship with the Lord.

**Connecting Japanese Churches to One Another**
We hope to encourage Japanese churches to use events around the Olympics as ways to share Jesus in their communities. This will provide an opportunity for many churches to band together in unity for the sake of reaching their neighbors with the Good News. We desire to see Japanese churches connecting with each other so that they would become stronger and more obedient.

**Connecting the Japanese Church to the World**
God has called His disciples to make disciples of all nations. Since the Olympics is a time when nearly all nations come together in one place, we hope that Japanese Christians will want to share Jesus with the world. We hope that Japanese churches will send out missionaries of their own to the nations.