## THE BENEKES' JAPAN JOURNAL

## Connecting College Students in Kyoto to Jesus



## Dear Friends,

Thank you for praying for our busiest month in recent memory! January began with us welcoming a mission team from Korea (1/8-20). Although they visited during the study period before final exams, they were still able to share the gospel with many Japanese students, both on campus and through an outreach event at a local church. They also connected several new students to our community.

After helping the Korean mission team get oriented on campus, Ryan traveled to Maryland to speak at a Cru student conference (1/12-14). He actually spent more time in transit than at the retreat itself. But he was encouraged by his fellowship with American staff and the interest many students showed in short-term missions to Kyoto.

January's highlight was definitely teaching an online theological class to our younger Japan Cru staff (1/22-2/2). One student commented: "I really enjoyed the content of the class! While studying, I realized again how wonderful salvation is. I was also overwhelmed by Ryan's teaching skill and amount of knowledge! I know the preparation was really tough, but I was so blessed, and I thank you for all your hard work. I am looking forward to the next time."

Ryan will have another opportunity to teach very soon; he is leading a workshop at our **National Spring Camp (3/6-9)** next week. Currently 100 staff and students are planning to attend, including 17 from Kyoto! *Please pray that everyone would connect with God and other likeminded believers and grow in their vision to reach their campuses.* 

Thank you once again for your prayers and partnership. We could not have made it through the busyness of January without them. May the Lord bless you and your loved ones abundantly this month!

## **Praises & Prayer Requests**

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- **Praise** God for graciously sustaining us through all the activity of the past month!
- **Pray** for ongoing relationships with students we met through the Korean mission team
- **Pray** for many students from Cru in the U.S. to come to Kyoto for short-term missions
- **Pray** for Japan Cru staff to continually deepen in their knowledge of God's salvation
- Pray for spiritual growth and vision for everyone attending National Spring Camp (3/6-9)



Yours in Christ, Ryan, Jungshin, Lela, Micah, & Hannah