## THE BENEKES' JAPAN JOURNAL

## Connecting College Students in Kyoto to Jesus



Dear Friends,

Greetings from Kyoto! Thank you for praying for our safe travels and quick readjustment to life in Japan. Our daughter Lela was able to go to school again a few days after we arrived and has enjoyed reconnecting with old friends. Thanks to Jungshin's homeschooling, she was actually *ahead* of her classmates in some subjects. We also registered Micah for kindergarten recently, and he's excited to start next month.

In unhappier news, I've been dealing with a painful bout of sciatica that began soon after we got home. I could hardly move the first few weeks. Even now, I walk with a limp. But fortunately I've improved enough that I can help around the house and go out to do things.

My first ministry priority for February was to get to know my new teammates (above), so I've been meeting with them as much as possible. I was also asked to handle administration for our National Spring Camp (3/8-10). It's the first time we've been able to gather since 2019! Right now, 34 students are planning to attend. Please pray for spiritual growth and for a fresh vision for them to reach their classmates for Christ.

Once we get back from camp, we have a few more weeks to plan for the new school year before it starts in April. <u>On 3/30, we will also host an</u> event to officially mark my appointment as the Kyoto team's new leader.

As we begin this new assignment, we are grateful once again for your partnership with us in the gospel in Japan. We look forward to how God will work through our ministry in the years to come.

## Praises & Prayer Requests

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- **Praise** God for safe travels and a quick readjustment to life in Japan for our family!
- **Praise** God for time to get to know our new teammates!
- **Pray** for the healing of Ryan's sciatica, with no recurrences
- **Pray** for our planning for the new school year's ministry
- Pray for Nat'l Spring Camp (3/8-10) and the 34 students attending from across Japan
- Pray for Kyoto's Transition Ceremony (3/30), when Ryan will be appointed new leader



Yours in Christ, Ryan, Jungshīn, Lela, Mīcah, & Hannah