



# Japan Journal | JANUARY 19, 2018

Updating You on the Benekes' Ministry to Students in Kobe!

Dear Friends,

A belated Happy New Year! We pray this finds you well and enjoying God's blessings in 2018.

Thank you for praying for our Christmas outreach last month. Because Christmas is the time of year when Japanese people are most open to hearing about Jesus, we created a survey to engage with students on campus. Besides questions like, "How will you celebrate this year?" we asked students if they would like to hear the true meaning of Christmas. As a result, our team was able to share the gospel with more than 60 students through personal conversations.

There were also around 15 new students who heard the gospel through our various Christmas outreach events. 2 of them prayed and received Christ! A few others committed to begin studying the Bible. Please pray that they would stay connected to our ministry, and the seeds of the gospel planted in their hearts would bear fruit. It can be hard following up students in January because most are busy with final exams.

Our family had a busy but meaningful New Year's. First, the day after Christmas, we drove 6 hours with our teammates to Mount Fuji for the **Japan CCC Staff Conference** (12/26-29). Then, from 1/3-5, we attended our annual **New Year's Prayer Retreat** in Kobe. While we might have preferred a little more time to rest, we were grateful for the opportunity to end 2017 and begin 2018 in prayer and fellowship.

Japanese college students finish their final exams in early February. After that, we start our preparations for the new school year in April. Please pray for wisdom and guidance, especially for our **2018 Planning Retreat** (2/12-14).

Thank you again for your prayers and partnership in 2017. May God bless you with a greater knowledge of Him in 2018!

Yours in Christ,

*Ryan & Jungshin*



Family photo at Lake Saiko near Mount Fuji during the JCCC Staff Conference



Preaching the gospel at our **Christmas Worship** outreach event (12/22)

## PRAISES & PRAYERS

- *Praise* God for the many students who heard the gospel this Christmas!
- *Pray* for the follow-up of those who came to Christmas events, even in the midst of a busy last month of classes
- *Pray* for guidance and wisdom during our **2018 Planning Retreat** (2/12-14)

**Ryan & Jungshin Beneke, Minamimukonosu 4-19-13-404, Amagasaki, Hyogo 661-0033 JAPAN**  
**Email:** [ryan.beneke@cru.org](mailto:ryan.beneke@cru.org) | **Phone:** (+81) 070-4371-8999 | **Website:** [give.cru.org/0564339](http://give.cru.org/0564339)