

# THE BENEKES' JAPAN JOURNAL

Connecting College Students in Kyoto to Jesus



## Praises & Prayer Requests

- Praise God for our interns' Japanese visas, mission teams, and the many new students at the Christmas Party (12/20)!
- Pray for students who came to the Christmas Party to stay connected and trust in Jesus
- Pray for Korean mission team's ministry on campus (1/8-20)
- Pray for students at Maryland conference to hear the call to missions in Kyoto and respond by God's grace (1/12-14)
- Pray for class Ryan will teach to Japan Cru staff (1/22-2/3)

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! We pray that you and your loved ones enjoyed a peaceful holiday season. For our family, December was a month full of travel and activity, with even more to come in the weeks ahead.

First, Ryan went with our interns to Korea to pick up their Japanese visas (12/2-6). Thankfully they were able to receive them within a few days, so they are now officially residents of Japan at last!

A week later, we welcomed 2 teams of American college students on short-term mission trips (12/15-23). They spent their time on campus talking with Japanese students about Jesus, culminating in an evangelistic Christmas Party (above) at a local church. We estimate that more than 60 students attended, most of whom were not Christians or regular members of our fellowship! *Please pray that the seeds of the gospel planted through this event would bear fruit in their lives.*

After a much-needed break with family over the holidays, we are now preparing to welcome another mission team from Korea (1/8-20). While they are here, Ryan will also be making a quick trip to Maryland to speak about missions in Kyoto at a student conference (1/12-14). Then, when he returns, he will be helping to teach an online theological class for our younger Japan Cru staff members (1/22-2/2).

As you can see, we have a very full month ahead of us! That's why we so value your prayers. None of this is possible without your partnership. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you. May God bless you in 2024!



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