

# THE BENEKES' JAPAN JOURNAL

Building Movements of Spirit-Led, Disciple-Making Disciples on Kyoto Campuses



## Praises & Prayer Requests

- Praise God for the Japanese brothers and sisters faithfully serving in local churches!
- Pray for churches in rural Japan to grow despite many cultural obstacles
- Pray for a new church home where we can serve and grow
- Praise God for 3 new interns coming to Kyoto this fall!
- Pray for their preparations and financial provision
- Pray for wisdom as we plan for next semester's ministry

Dear Friends,

Every Sunday for the past six weeks, we have visited a different local church near our new home in Kyoto. Because we were part of a vibrant community in Kobe, we did not appreciate the reality of most Japanese churches. But here in the more traditional countryside, we have seen the challenges that many of them face firsthand.

The smallest church we visited had only five people. Most members are retirement age or older. There are few families with young children. Yet wherever we have gone, we have also been encouraged to meet brothers and sisters in Christ and hear God's Word faithfully preached.

While our ministry focuses on college students, we also want to find a church where our children can grow in their faith and we can use our gifts to build up the body of Christ. Lord willing, we will decide where to attend next month. Please pray with us for God's guidance.

On campus, Ryan has been meeting regularly with another Kyoto staff member to plan for next semester's ministry. We are excited to announce that three new interns will be joining us from the U.S. this September! Please pray for their preparations and financial provision.

As always, we thank you for your prayers and partnership with our ministry. We will write again next month to update you on our plans for the rest of the year. Until then, may God bless you abundantly!



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