



# Japan Journal

| JUNE 21, 2012

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

Dear Friends,

*Konnichiwa* (Hello) from Kobe, Japan! I still find it hard to believe we're really here, and that it's already been a month since we arrived. Time flies! When we first got here, our apartment was totally empty except for the futon we brought with us. Now, after living out of suitcases for a few weeks, we actually have enough furniture to call it home.

Besides making lots of trips to *Nitori* (Japan's IKEA), we've started joining our teammates for more and more ministry on campus. **Last week, I got to share the gospel with a freshman guy who thanked me afterwards for our conversation.** It feels *so good* to be talking about Jesus with Japanese students again after two years away. After all, that's why we came back here!

Right now, Jungshin and I are splitting our time between ministry at Kobe and Kwansei Gakuin Universities, two of the largest and most prestigious schools in the area. I'm also organizing the outreach at Kobe University for a short-term mission team that's coming from L.A. in a couple weeks.

It's been a lot of fun (and hard work!) planning the team's ministry. We're partnering with a church near campus that shares our vision to reach Japanese students, and I'm excited to see how God uses us together next month.

After the long journey of the past few years to return here, we're keenly aware of what a privilege it is to be serving God in Japan again. We don't take a single day for granted. From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you for your partnership. Here's to many great years to come!

Yours in Christ,

*Ryan & Jungshin*



With our team in Tokyo last month



We recently hosted a Beach BBQ outreach for students. Here's my group.

## PRAISES & PRAYERS

- Praise God for our new home, new team, and a good first month in Japan!
- Pray for a smooth transition as we continue to settle in and take on more ministry responsibilities this summer
- Pray for our short-term mission teams from California and Korea, 7/3-7/24

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