



Japan Journal

| SEPTEMBER 24, 2012

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

Dear Friends,

To be honest, I wasn't looking forward to coming back to America this summer. After 2 years away from ministry in Japan, the last thing I wanted to do was leave again so soon after we got there. But we had no choice; Jungshin couldn't be outside the States for more than 6 months with her green card, or she could lose it. So we had to go.

And now, I'd have to say that I'm glad we did. Because even though we thought it would be best for us to stay in Japan, God had other purposes in mind for us right here. After a busy first semester, we've been able to rest and just focus on deepening our relationships with Jesus—something that can be tough to do when you're in the thick of ministry.

We've also been able to spend lots of time with family we haven't seen much the past few years. The longer we're away, the more precious that time together becomes. After this summer, I feel more ready to embrace our life in Japan because I have peace that our relationship with my family is growing, and that God is working in their lives, as well.

The last thing we need to take care of before we leave the U.S. is Jungshin's citizenship. With that, we can stay in Japan for as long as God calls us, without having to come back here every 6 months. **Her interview is scheduled for Friday, October 5th at 8:20 AM in Norfolk, VA. Would you please remember to pray for us then?**

We expect to return to Japan with Jungshin's new U.S. citizenship and passport on October 13th. Thank you in advance for your prayers; we will write again soon!

Yours in Christ,

Ryan & Jungshin



Jungshin and my sister Jessica in Richmond, VA earlier this month



Our two new interns (above) and other teammates are raising financial support so they can join us in Japan next month

PRAISES & PRAYERS

- Praise God for time to rest and grow closer to Him and my family!
- Pray for Korean teammates raising financial support to return to Japan
- Pray for Jungshin to receive her U.S. citizenship in Norfolk on October 5th

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