

Christ in the classroom



Lunch with Japanese classmates

Have you ever wondered how to share the gospel with classmates, co-workers, and the other people you see every day? That's the challenge facing me now as a Korean language student.

It's a different challenge than the one I faced doing ministry in Japan. Honestly, it's sometimes easier to approach people I've never met than to get to know the person sitting next to me.

But if I don't initiate in building those relationships, the odds are that my classmates won't, either. So I've had to be pro-active. It looks like Jesus is going to make a people person out of me yet!

This month started with God reminding me, in his Word, that he brought me to Korea for a purpose. While it's important I make the most of this chance to learn, being good at Korean isn't everything. God placed me here, just as He placed me in Japan, because there are people around me that He wants to reach.

But how to reach them? I started with a few resolutions. First, I'd try to pray every day for my classmates. Second, I'd use our break times to talk to them, no matter how tired I was. Beyond that, I'd share my faith naturally during class, show Christ's love in practical service, and never turn down an invitation to hang out.

How this actually played out was that everyone knew from the very first day that I was a Christian and a missionary. A couple of times, I brought in food and snacks to give my classmates. Whenever the Japanese students invited me—the white American guy—to eat lunch with them, I said yes. And by the end of the month, I'd been able to have at least one substantial conversation with everybody.

I wish I could say that, in the course of that, I had many opportunities to verbally communicate the gospel; the truth is, I didn't. But I *did* gain my classmates' trust, get to embody the love of Christ, and hopefully pique their interest in Him in the process.

For good measure, I wrote thank you cards for everyone on the last day and gave them gospel tracts in English, Japanese and Korean. Jungshin also helped me track down a copy of the JESUS Film in Khmer for my Cambodian classmate. (She was very surprised!)

What will come of all this? I'll probably never know fully this

side of heaven. But I rest in the faith that God has a purpose, and I continue to pray for my classmates' salvation. Please join me.

Next month, I'll be starting a 10-week intensive language program at Korea University. I believe this past month was only a warm-up for what God wants to do through me there. Please pray for even greater opportunities to share Christ and make disciples.

Thank you for your partnership, and have a great month!

Prayer Requests

- We submitted Jungshin's green card application on March 25th! *Pray it would be processed quickly.* We'll start the second round of paperwork next month.
- That former classmates would respond to the gospel, and for God to prepare the hearts of new classmates at Korea University
- For Jungshin and I to grow in learning how to seek God together, not just as individuals

Ryan & Jungshin



Korea U, my next mission field