



Passing out fliers with CCC staff and students during orientation

“But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere.” (2 Corinthians 2:14, ESV)

This verse came to mind today as I was reflecting on some of the opportunities God has given me to share Him here. Whether in stores, restaurants, classrooms or a college campus, I have the privilege of being Christ’s fragrance in places where almost nobody knows Him. For that alone, I am so grateful. And as I walk with Christ, I believe He is also using me in their lives.

God let me see a glimpse of that last month through one of my Japanese teachers. We often talked about church or religion after classes, and she had once asked me for a book on Christianity. I finally got her one on what I thought would be our last day. But the next day I came in, she also happened to be there, so we started to chat.

She told me she had started reading the book and really appreciated it. Though she had gotten interested in Christianity through me and other friends, it had seemed too difficult for her to penetrate. But the book was by a Japanese author, and it had easy-to-understand explanations. It had helped to show her that the Bible was accessible. I recommended a church in her area and promised to keep in contact.

It was only one small example, but I left encouraged that God is indeed working in the lives of those around me, even when I cannot always see it. Thank you for your prayers!

Back to School

Just as school begins winding down in the States in April, here in Japan things are just getting started. As always, we have spent this month on campus trying to meet as many freshmen as possible: passing out fliers, conducting spiritual surveys and hosting welcome events.

Compared to previous years, we have been downplaying the multicultural aspect of our ministry and focusing mostly on the spiritual. We want to find Christian leaders and open non-Christians: “persons of peace” (Mt 10:13) through whom we can reach entire communities with the gospel.

Right now, I’m investing my

energy in a couple freshman guys who seem to have potential. Hopefully I’ll have a lot more to share about them in the next few months. My biggest prayer is that God would give me even one freshman I can truly pour into and help grow as a disciple this year. Please join me in that prayer. I eagerly anticipate God’s response!

Thank you for partnering with me to be Christ’s fragrance in Japan. Have a wonderful month!

Prayer Requests

- Praises for being able to share with my teachers; for God to continue working in their lives
- For God to work in the hearts of new students at Kangaku U; for at least one freshman disciple
- For me to grow as a man of prayer and seek to first advance God’s Kingdom on my knees

Ryan



Looking a bit grumpy despite the cherry blossoms and blue skies