



Japan Journal

| SEPTEMBER 10, 2013

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

Dear Friends,

Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. (Matthew 28:19-20) This "Great Commission" of Jesus was the theme for our recent **Summer Camp**, August 13-15.

In the past year, God has graciously brought a number of Christian students into our ministry. But until now, most of them had been spectators at our activities. They participated, but they didn't always take the initiative to lead or fully own the vision for making disciples on their campus.

We wanted this camp to change that, beginning with the preparations: **Apart from the staff-led teaching times, every program was planned and directed by students.** They did everything from leading worship and small groups to choosing menus and handling finances.

As they served together, their commitment to each other and the ministry deepened. **Now we have an emerging group of at least five student leaders who want to take responsibility for reaching their classmates for Christ next semester.** Our number one ministry priority this fall will be training and discipling them so they can do that.

Until then, we have a few more weeks before school starts again. We're using that time to rest and catch up on admin work after a busy summer. **We're also excited to welcome Jungshin's parents from Korea next week—their first visit to Japan!** As always, thank you so much for your prayers for our family. Have a wonderful month!

Yours in Christ,

Ryan & Jungshin



Our Japanese student leaders (five on left) enjoy their snacks during small group at **Summer Camp** last month



We recently visited friends in southern Japan; behind us is an active volcano!

PRAISES & PRAYERS

- *Praise* God for growing commitment from our Japanese student leaders!
- *Pray* we would use our free time well to rest and prepare for fall semester
- *Pray* for our time with Jungshin's family during their visit, 9/18-22

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