

THE BENEKES' JAPAN JOURNAL

Connecting College Students in Kyoto to Jesus



Praises & Prayer Requests

- Praise God for 80 people at Christmas outreach events!
- Pray many would come to know Christ & stay connected
- Praise God for chance to serve at Cru conferences in Japan and the United States!
- Pray for U.S. college students to come on missions to Kyoto
- Praise God for good class with Cru Japan staff in January!
- Pray for teaching at Spring Camp (3/4-7) and leading mission trip to unchurched village afterwards (3/7-9)

Dear Friends,

A belated Happy New Year! We pray this finds you thriving in 2025.

Thank you for praying for our Christmas outreach (12/13, 20). We had over 80 people attend (above), including about 10 students who are not yet Christians! A Japanese staff member shared the gospel message and gave everyone a chance to respond. *Please pray that many would come to know Christ and stay connected to our community this year.*

Thank you also for praying for our opportunities to serve over the winter holidays. Ryan successfully emceed at Cru Japan's Staff Conference (12/26-29) before traveling to the U.S. to connect with students at Dallas Winter Conference (1/2-5). He was encouraged to see the high level of interest in Kyoto! Recruitment continues for a two-week mission trip in May and a one-year internship in August. *Please pray that God would move the hearts of many students to join us.*

After the semester ended in January, Ryan had the chance to teach a one-week class on the Bible and LGBTQ issues to our Cru Japan staff members (1/27-31). The response was very positive, and he plans to revise that material into a seminar to help teach students in the future.

In February, we have been preparing for Cru Japan's annual Spring Camp in Tokyo (3/4-7). Over 150 people are coming from across the country, including 22 from Kyoto! Ryan will speak at a main session (3/5) and teach a seminar (3/6). Then, after camp ends, he will lead a team on a mission trip to an unchurched village (3/7-9). *Please pray that God would strengthen Ryan for each of these responsibilities, as well as protect Jungshin and the kids while he is away for a week.*

Thank you for your continued prayers in 2025! We appreciate your partnership in our ministry and pray that the Lord bless you this month.



Yours in Christ,
Ryan, Jungshin, Lela, Micah, & Hannah