



In Kyoto with other CCC staff

“Are you vigorous?” That’s a literal translation of the Japanese for “How are you?” (Ogenki desu ka?) It gives you some idea how much people value their health here.

So when swine flu was discovered in our city last month, all schools were forced to close for one week—including the colleges where we do ministry. How to spend our unexpected week off?

Because the flu hadn’t reached Kyoto yet, God put it on my heart to go back to **Kyoto University**, where I spent two weeks last summer. Our group gathered for prayer and fellowship in the morning, then fanned out on campus after lunch to share the gospel.

Though I had a great conversation with a Chinese exchange student, I was a little disappointed. We had come a long way for one day of ministry, and to be honest, I was expecting something more... dramatic. But I tried to be positive as I went back to hear the others’ stories.

Joining us was our Kyoto CCC staff member, an older Korean gentleman. Normally he doesn’t minister at Kyoto University, but had come that day for our special mission. Excitedly, he began to tell us what had happened.

He approached one student and asked him if he’d ever read the Bible. The student pulled one out of his bag and told him he’d just bought it that morning! Turns out he’d been going to church, but wasn’t a Christian because he couldn’t believe in the Resurrection. They continued to talk, and after listening to the staff member’s explanations, *the student prayed to place his faith in Jesus.*

Praise God, who uses even the flu to accomplish his purposes! In fact, this student was only on campus that day because his work was closed. What started with us not knowing how to spend our week ended with a soul saved and everyone encouraged.

Back to School 2

Our Kyoto trip also motivated me to get out and keep meeting new students once school restarted. I’d spent the few weeks before focusing on current relationships. But the fact that there were open people out there showed me I could never stop searching for “lost sheep.” Since then, I’ve been setting aside more time each week to do that, and

God has been faithful to provide chances to share the gospel and make new freshman contacts.

In particular, I’m trying to start Bible study with a couple guys this month. Please remember **Ryo** (non-Christian) and **Yoshi** (Christian) in your prayers. Please pray also for the many other men I’m seeking to share Christ with through my words and actions. Pray some might be saved soon.

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

Prayer Requests

- For God’s blessing on Kyoto and our staff serving there
- To be able to start Bible study with Ryo and Yoshi this month, and for their growth as disciples
- Salvation for freshman students and continued opportunities to share the gospel with them
- For my own walk with the Lord to deepen and my faith to grow

Ryan



Speaking at our weekly meeting