

Back East... *Far East*



17 hours and 7000 miles later

Konnichiwa from Japan! Wow, it feels good to finally be able to say that. Now that I'm back here, my last year in America feels like a dream. Pleasant memories of friends and family have replaced the challenges of support-raising. Still, I am continually amazed at what God has done to get me to Osaka, and what an awesome thing it is to be His ambassador in Japan. Thank you so much again for your partnership in my ministry. None of this would be possible without you!

Since coming back, I have been taking things pretty slowly while I get settled. My jet lag is gone, but it will take some more time to re-adjust to the culture and bring my Japanese up to speed. Right now I am looking for part-time language

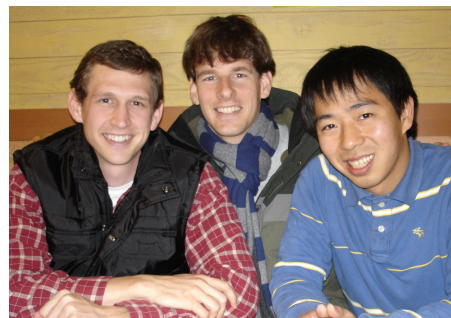
schools and catching up with our different campuses and events, thinking and praying about what my role in our team should be. The next year or so will be a balancing act of Japanese study, new staff training and ministry to students on campus. I look forward to growing in the Lord through this time, as well as to getting better equipped for my long-term service in Japan.

Three's Company

Let me introduce you to the two men I'll be living with. Philip is from Ohio and is the only other American on our team. We worked together my first year in Japan. He is almost as tall as I am, so sometimes we get mistaken for being brothers.

Kohei is one of our Japanese staff. We lived together for most of my previous time in Osaka. He prays more than anyone I've ever met and works hard mentoring the younger guys in our ministry.

It's a great privilege to share my life with these two godly men.



From left to right: Philip, me, Kohei

Movin' On Up



The view from our future home

Because three of us are now living in a tiny apartment built for two, we had to look for a new place to live. Yesterday, we found one! It's only a few minutes' walk from our current home, but it has a nice view of the mountains, three bedrooms, is closer to the train station *and* is spacious enough to host guests and friends. We plan to move next week. Praise God for his provision!

Prayer Requests

- Find good language schools
- Prioritize daily time with God
- Readjustment to life in Japan
- Upcoming events
 - Christmas Party (12.14)
 - Christmas Caroling (12.18)
 - Christmas Concert (12.21)
 - Staff Conference (12.26-29)

Thank you for your prayers. Have a wonderful Christmas!

Ryan