



# Japan Journal

| JANUARY 16, 2012

Connecting You with the Benekes' Journey Back to Japan!

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! We hope you were able to enjoy the holidays with loved ones. Thank you also for your prayers for our time with family in Virginia. We spent a great month together before coming back to Boise yesterday.

Now we have only a few short weeks to prepare before **we leave the States on February 11th**. That's right, we've finally booked our tickets! But we won't be headed back to Japan directly—we'll be stopping in Korea to visit Jungshin's family while we wait for her Japanese visa. We plan to return to Osaka as soon as we receive it.

However, Jungshin can't apply for her Japanese visa until she receives a U.S. passport, and she can't receive a passport until she becomes a U.S. citizen. Since we wrote last month, we've submitted all of the paperwork for our appeal to Immigration. Now we're just waiting for them to get back to us with an interview date.

**Please pray Immigration would respond as soon as possible, and that Jungshin would have her interview and receive her citizenship by the end of January.**

Though we hoped we'd be back in Japan by now, we've seen the wisdom of God's timing this past month. We've appreciated the extra time to rest, prepare and visit family before heading overseas again long-term.

Therefore, we're confident God will also work Jungshin's citizenship issues together for good these next few weeks. We'll update you on how He does that soon!

Grateful for your Partnership,

*Ryan & Jungshin*



With friends from church in Japan. They also visited Virginia last month.



With my sister Jessica at the hotel where she works in West Virginia

## PRAYER REQUESTS

- For Jungshin to receive her U.S. citizenship by the end of January
- Wisdom for packing and other preparations to leave **February 11th**
- God's provision of our last financial needs—**only \$150/month to go!**