



*Passing out Christmas CDs
(despite some belt problems)*

Happy New Year! As of today, our fall semester of ministry has officially come to a close. Here's a recap of the last couple months...

CD Gets Rave Reviews

Thank you for praying for our Christmas outreaches! It was a busy season filled with great chances to share Christ. First, we passed out 2,000 Christmas music CDs (with gospel tracts and a scene from *Jesus*) near local campuses.

On the back of the CD was contact info for our student leader. When he went to class that day, his professor began by playing some music. "You recognize this?" he asked him. It was our Christmas CD! This *non-Christian* professor then went on to tell the class how much he liked it and had been rav-

ing about it to his friends! I believe this is just one of the many more untold stories of how God used these CDs this Christmas.

What "Senioritis"?

Another big event last month was our annual Christmas party. This year we kept things smaller and held a party for each individual campus, which meant more work but also a more intimate, family-like atmosphere.

A student named **Suzuka**, who became a Christian in the US last year, helped us plan and co-host our party. She also shared how her life had changed since trusting Christ. Suzuka wants to impact her campus spiritually before she graduates in March.

In particular, she has been reaching out to some non-Christian freshmen that come to our events, bringing them to church and spending as much time as possible together off-campus. Her heart is to see some of them saved and established in their faith before she goes.

This is our heart, too: to see older students like Suzuka making disciples of younger. Japanese people respect seniority; if more Christians can use their influential statuses for the gospel, society *will* change. Please pray for Suzuka and the women she is investing in, that they might truly become Christ's disciples.

Home for Christmas

I was blessed to be able to spend a few weeks at home over the holidays. It was my first trip back since November 2007. But as much as I miss my family and enjoyed spending time with them, my thoughts were still with Japan.

Japan might not be facing the same humanitarian or economic crises that much of the world today is. But it's a prosperous country still full of lost people without eternal hope in Christ. Thank you so much for standing alongside me in God's love to reach them.

May 2009 be your best year yet!

Prayer Requests

- For Suzuka to keep maturing in Christ, and for her freshman friends to trust Him as Savior
- To grow in my knowledge of God and walk closer with Him through my two-week seminary courses (Tokyo, 1.26-2.6)

Ryan



Suzuka (right) and friend