

# THE BENEKES' JAPAN JOURNAL

Building Movements of Spirit-Led, Disciple-Making Disciples on Kobe Campuses



## Praises & Prayer Requests

- Praise God for the start of a new school year for Lela and our college students!
- Praise God that Hannah is healthy and growing well!
- Pray that God would bless our online outreach efforts and connect us with freshmen
- Pray for protection from COVID-19 and wisdom to minister well in this pandemic
- Pray I could manage my time to balance my responsibilities to family, ministry, and studies

Dear Friends,

The cherry blossoms have come and gone, which means that spring has officially arrived and brought with it the new school year in Japan. Here is an update on what we have been doing these past few months:

In March, we gathered for the first time in over a year to send off our graduating seniors (above). Since then, we have held socially distanced worship gatherings every week. Despite not being able to go on campus, we have even seen a few freshmen show up because of church referrals.

However, Kobe currently has its highest number of COVID-19 cases since the pandemic began. A third State of Emergency will be declared next week, so we will soon have to go back to meeting online for the near future. Thankfully we were able to create a new ministry website this spring, and we have begun posting on social media to promote our outreach. Please pray that these online efforts would prove fruitful.

Lela (5) started her 2nd year of Japanese kindergarten this month. Micah (2) is at church twice a week or more for different programs. Hannah is now 5 months old and has caught up with the average baby's weight, even though she was born 6 weeks early. As Hannah has gotten older, Jungshin has enjoyed being able to go out more often. I recently finished another semester in seminary and hope to graduate April 2022.

Thank you for remembering us and our ministry in your prayers as we start our second school year under COVID-19. The challenges are great, but God is faithful. May He bless you abundantly this month!



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