



“So I have to put the cash in here and set it on the edge of the table, right?” My sister nodded, an amused grin on her face. But what can I say? Even something as simple as paying your bill in a restaurant can be difficult when you’ve spent the past few years living overseas...

Most everyone knows about “culture shock,” that overwhelming sense of *otherness* you sometimes get when entering a strange environment. What many people might not realize is that, when you’ve been gone for so long, *your* culture becomes the strange one!

So as Jungshin adjusts to her new surroundings, I’m having to adjust to mine, as well. What makes it even more challenging is that the place we’re living now—Idaho—is not my original home. I’m from Southern California; I don’t know how to drive in the snow or put chains on my tires! Just getting home every day is an adventure. It’s done wonders for my prayer life.

All joking aside, many of you are probably wondering why we’re here. The short answer is that this is where my mother now lives. We thought it would be best to be around family while we got adjusted.

At the same time, **Boise State has a great Intensive English Program that Jungshin is going to be studying in for the next semester.** Her English has obviously improved a lot since we got married, but she could still use some more formal lessons to prepare her for our required missionary training this summer. She’s also planning to help out with CCC’s ministry to international students, just like I did when I was studying in Korea. We’ve basically switched places.

In the meantime, **my job here for the next few months is to raise the financial support we need to get us back to Japan.** Marriage, and the prospect of a child in the not-too-distant future, means higher costs, and we have to make up the difference. We’re still not exactly sure what that is going to be, but we should know soon.

As I write this, Japan CCC is holding National Planning Meetings that will determine our placement. **Although we’ve asked to return to Osaka, there is a possibility that we might be sent to another area of the country with greater need. We’re open to God’s leading.** Once our placement is decided, we should be able to calculate our new financial goals and start raising the money to meet them.

Because we’re both new here in Boise, we don’t know a lot of people yet. That makes fundraising an even bigger step of faith. We need your prayers! And if you know of anyone in Idaho whom we might be able to connect with, please let us know.

Thank you for your continued partnership, and God bless!

Ryan & Jungshin



Visiting Natural Bridge in Virginia

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Our ongoing adjustment
- God’s leading to the best possible placement for us in Japan
- Jungshin’s English study and relationships with classmates
- Open doors to meet lots of new ministry partners in Boise



With my grandparents in Minnesota

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