

Japan Journa I 日本日記

Ryan Beneke **〒560-0043** Osaka-fu, Toyonaka-shi Machikaneyama-cho 23-7-505 **JAPAN**

October 18, 2009



With CCC friends in Taiwan

Fall greetings! It's been a month now since I got back from Taiwan, and the new semester is in full swing. Let me update you on what's been happening recently...

Mission Successful!

In retrospect, I think that, more than anything, my time in Taiwan was a lesson in humility. God used it to show me how much I still focus on results and my own abilities, rather than on being faithful to him and just relying on his grace.

In Taiwan, it didn't take long to realize I was helpless. I couldn't speak the language, I didn't understand the culture; on the whole, it didn't seem like I had much to contribute. For someone who finds self-worth in their performance, it was very stressful!

So my focus switched to, "God, I know I can't do much here. But if I can be faithful in what your Spirit leads me to do, whatever the results, I'll count this mission a success. Please help me."

From that point forward, ministry became much more enjoyable. And you know what? In his grace, God still used me. The last night of the mission, I had the privilegein English—of leading a 4th year student named **Eric** to Christ.

In fact, during that night's outreach, we saw 24 students personally pray to receive Christ. Even now, I'm amazed by the response. It certainly wasn't because of us; it was only by the grace of God. Thank you for your prayers!

A week after returning from Taiwan, I headed back to campus with some new teammates for the fall semester. So far, I've especially been enjoying my weekly mentorship times with a couple of Christian guys. I've also resumed Bible study with Kotaro from last semester. Please keep praying for his salvation!

Favor from the Lord

Last but not least, I wanted to share with you a special announcement: I'm getting married! Her name is Jungshin (JUNGsheen), and she's a CCC staff from Korea. We met when she was here as a short-term missionary from 2007-2008.

She's in Singapore now through the middle of November, finishing overseas missionary training as she gets ready to come back to Japan. We both love this nation and want to continue serving here for

as long as the Lord allows us.

Our wedding is set for **January** 30th in Seoul, South Korea. If you happen to be in this hemisphere around that time, please feel free to join us!

Until then, I would greatly appreciate your prayers for our preparations—for the wedding itself, of course, but beyond that, for a lifetime of glorifying and serving Christ together.

Thank you again for your partnership through all of life's seasons. May the Lord bless you this month!

Prayer Requests

- Follow-up for students like Eric who trusted Christ during our time in Taiwan
- Growth for the two Christian students I'm mentoring, and salvation for Kotaro
- God's blessing upon me and Jungshin's marriage prep

Ryan



With my future wife, Jungshin

Phone: (81) 070-5594-8440 **Email**: ryan.beneke@uscm.org **Web**: www.ministryupdates.org/beneke I am responsible for raising 100% of my financial support. To partner with me, please call 1-888-CRUSADE or visit give.ccci.org.