



# Japan Journal | MAY 2, 2012

Connecting You with the Benekes' Journey Back to Japan!

Dear Friends,

When I left Japan to marry Jungshin, I never imagined the journey that God had in store for us over the next two years. From ministering to international students in South Korea, to driving across the Western U.S. raising support, it has been quite an adventure. I truly cannot express how grateful we are for each of you who has prayed, given, and served to make these past two years possible.

Now, we are pleased to tell you that this month begins a new chapter in our lives and ministry: **A few days ago, we received our 3-year Japanese visas and made plans to return there on May 15th!** We have also found a new apartment that we hope to close on next week. It seems like everything is finally coming together for our arrival.

When we arrive, we'll be joining a team of two staff and nine interns who have branched off from our larger Osaka team to pioneer campus ministries around Kobe. I actually spent two years focusing on one of these campuses when I ministered in Japan before. But unfortunately, there was no one to continue the work after I left.

**That's why I'm so grateful God has given us teammates who share our vision of making disciples on Kobe campuses, building dynamic Christian communities that will impact their schools, cities, and entire nation for Christ.** We'll have more on what that looks like after we're settled in Japan in a few weeks. Until then, thank you again for your prayers and support, and God bless!

Yours in Christ,

*Ryan & Jungshin*



Spring flowers in South Korea



Our teammates passing out fliers at freshman orientation last month; the Japanese school year starts in April

## **PRAISES & PRAYERS**

- Praise God for providing our visas!
- Pray for our remaining time with family in Korea, and for wisdom in the details of our move to Japan
- Pray that the Lord would lead our team to students in Kobe whom He has prepared to receive the gospel