



# Japan Journal

| APRIL 7, 2012

Connecting You with the Benekes' Journey Back to Japan!

Dear Friends,

Before Jungshin's last hearing on March 9th, I truly believed my next update would be a testimony of how God miraculously provided her citizenship. However, as it turned out, God had a different testimony for us in mind: a testimony of choosing to trust him in spite of adversity.

**Though it was disappointing to hear Jungshin's appeal had been denied, we know that God cares for us.** If he wants us to apply again, we trust he has a good reason for doing so—even if we can't understand it right now. We are grateful for the extra weeks he gave us in America.

Besides precious time with family and friends, our last month stateside was full of ministry. We went on a college student retreat and spoke at several churches in Idaho. We also took a short trip to attend a missions conference in Southern California. None of this would have happened if we'd left in February as originally scheduled.

Now, after a couple weeks in Korea, we've put worries about Jungshin's citizenship behind us and are looking forward to our ministry in Japan. **We plan to leave as soon as we receive our long-term visas, hopefully by the end of April.** In the meantime, we will be visiting Jungshin's family, meeting friends and supporters, and continuing to prepare ourselves spiritually for the mission ahead.

Thank you so much again for your prayers and support during our past year in the States! Japan is not far away, and we are very excited to be back there soon.

Yours in Christ,

*Ryan & Jungshin*



With Jungshin's younger sister and cousin in South Korea



A college student shares the gospel during outreach at JCCC's National Conference in Tokyo last month. More than 50 students attended.

## **PRAISES & PRAYERS**

- Praise for God's perfect timing and a good last month in America
- Prayer for our visas and our search for a new apartment in Japan
- Prayer for our spiritual growth and our ministry to family in Korea