THE BENEKES' JAPAN JOURNAL

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



Dear Friends,

"Thank you for your reply. When I sent that question, my heart felt so broken, I was just about to kill myself. But when I read your reply, I was happy and couldn't stop crying. I'm really glad I contacted you. I'm glad I could stop thinking about dying. Thanks for your wonderful message."

The above is an actual email we received from a high school student this summer. She had found our ministry's evangelistic website, <u>studentinjapan.com</u>, just as she was contemplating suicide and decided to contact us. After our staff wrote back, this was her response.

The pandemic in Japan has recently worsened, and our chances for in-person ministry remain limited. But we thank God that we can still help hurting people like this young woman find hope online.

Since May 2020, when we updated <u>studentinjapan.com</u>'s design and started adding new articles, more than 95,000 people have visited the website. Of these, more than 1,000 have indicated decisions to trust Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Praise God for how the gospel continues to spread, even when we can't meet face-to-face!

We recently completed another hectic semester of ministry and seminary study. Now we're off for a few weeks until school starts again in September. It's shaping up to be a busy fall as we take on some new ministry responsibilities (more on that next month). In the meantime, please pray for our family's rest, and that many more Japanese would find hope in Jesus through this pandemic. We'll write again soon!

Praises & Prayer Requests

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- **Praise** God for the thousands who have heard the gospel through <u>studentinjapan.com</u>!
- Praise God that we and our teammates have begun to receive our vaccinations!
- **Pray** for protection from COVID-19 for our students and church members
- **Pray** many more Japanese would find hope in Jesus as the pandemic worsens
- **Pray** our family might be refreshed and renewed before the fall semester starts



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