

# THE BENEKES' JAPAN JOURNAL

Building Movements of Disciple-Making Disciples on Kobe Campuses



Dear Friends,

Greetings from Kobe! We pray this finds you well in 2020. Thank you for remembering our family in your prayers over the holidays. Here are some of the highlights from our past month of ministry:

First, we enjoyed the chance to fellowship with friends from across the country at the Japan Cru Staff Conference (12/25-28). The above photo is of our Kobe Team, including one of two students from our ministry who were recently accepted to serve as full-time staff!

From 1/12-18, I traveled to Thailand to take a couple intensive classes on Global Leadership for my seminary studies. There I was inspired to learn from several missionaries serving in SE Asia and challenged to make the Word of God more central to my own life and ministry.

New Christian Shikin came to our last Coffee Time of the semester (1/23) and met other Chinese Christians from our ministry. Although he has now returned to China until the end of March, thankfully I was able to connect him to some local believers for follow-up before he left.

As the fall semester ends this week, I am currently preparing for our 2nd annual Film School (2/10-14) in Fukuoka. 20 staff and students from around the country will be coming to learn how to create short films to use in their local ministries. We are also planning to add some of these films to an evangelistic smart phone application called "Gateway," which we will once again use for outreach at our national conference in March.

Thank you for your continued partnership with our ministry in 2020! We will update you again after Film School next month.

## Praises & Prayer Requests

- Praise God for a blessed time of fellowship at Staff Conference
- Praise God for the chance to study in Thailand this month
- Praise God that new Christian Shikin was able to connect with other Chinese believers
- Pray Shikin would grow during his time in China, and for his physical and spiritual protection
- Pray I could apply what I learned in Thailand and daily prioritize my time with God and family
- Pray for Film School: for me to lead well, participants to learn well, and films produced to help advance the Gospel on campus
- Pray for the growth of the 3 men I am discipling this semester: Kaishu, Tomoki, and Micah
- Pray for Tsubasa, who received Christ last summer but whom I have not been able to meet yet; I hope to connect with him soon



Yours in Christ,  
Ryan, Jungshin, Lela, and Micah