

THE BENEKES' JAPAN JOURNAL

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



Praises & Prayer Requests

- Praise God for the birth of our 2nd daughter, Hannah Jiho, on November 13!
- Praise God that Hannah has been healthy and growing since coming home!
- Pray for us as we continue to adjust to being a family of 5
- Pray that Jungshin would get enough sleep as she wakes up to feed Hannah every night
- Pray I could manage my time well to balance responsibilities at home, ministry, and studies

Dear Friends,

The text message came early that morning: “Honey, I feel like my contractions started.” Jungshin had been unexpectedly admitted to the hospital the week before because of bleeding. The doctors wanted to monitor her pregnancy because it was still 6 weeks until her due date. But now, ready or not, Baby #3 was coming.

Our daughter, Hannah Jiho Beneke, was born by C-section at 9:09 AM on November 13, measuring 19 inches and weighing 4 lbs 11 oz. Her English name comes from the Hebrew verb *chanan*, meaning “to be gracious to.” Her Korean name means “The Lord knows and keeps me.”

Hannah spent her first four weeks in the NICU. After Jungshin was discharged, we continued making the daily trek to the hospital so she could deliver her breast milk. Eventually Hannah graduated from her incubator, respirator, and feeding tube and came home on December 11.

Since then, we have been busy adjusting to life as a family of five. While Jungshin watches Hannah, I take care of the older kids and housework. Although I had to stop ministry when Jungshin went into the hospital, teammates and church members helped so I could finish my classes. Now, after a couple weeks off, Lela has started school again and I am slowly transitioning back to ministry and seminary studies.

Thank you so much for remembering us in your prayers over these past few, crazy months. We wish you a belated Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We will write again soon with another ministry update!



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