

# THE BENEKES' JAPAN JOURNAL

Connecting College Students in Kyoto to Jesus



Dear Friends,

It has been far too long since we wrote! Here are some highlights so far from an eventful semester:

After National Spring Camp (3/6-9), we prepared for the new school year with students in March. We passed out 3,000 fliers on 4 campuses and hosted several outreach events once classes began in April.

By God's grace, we saw a great response! Many Christian students connected with us through mutual friends and church contacts. Many non-Christian students also responded to our fliers and came out to our campus lunches and large group gatherings. Several of them have continued to attend our weekly Bible studies throughout the semester.

One student named Sho, who first connected with our ministry last fall, was baptized this month (above). He shared that, although he had been going to church for a year, it was only through his friendships with our members that he began to consider a relationship with Jesus for himself. Sho has now become one of our most committed students, and we are excited to see how God continues to grow and use him.

From 5/20-6/8, we hosted a short-term mission team from America that helped us meet many new people on campus. After that mission team left, we also said goodbye to 5 interns who had served with us since last October. However, all 5 of them will be continuing in ministry with Cru next year: 2 back home in Texas, 2 in Kyoto, and 1 in Tokyo.

Currently we are enjoying a brief calm before 2 more short-term mission teams arrive from Korea and America (7/2-20). Spring semester runs through the end of July, so we are in the final stretch. *Please pray for strength and perseverance to finish well.* Thank you for your prayers and partnership. We will write you again after the semester ends!

## Praises & Prayer Requests

- Praise God for his work on Kyoto campuses this semester and for Sho's baptism!
- Pray for the salvation of non-Christian students attending our weekly Bible studies
- Pray for Sho and our other Christian students to grow as spiritual leaders
- Pray for the Korean and American short-term mission teams (7/2-20) to be fruitful
- Pray for God's blessings on our interns as they prepare for their 2nd years with Cru



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