

THE BENEKES' JAPAN JOURNAL

Building Movements of Disciple-Making Disciples on Kobe Campuses



Dear Friends,

There is truly no better time than Christmas to share the Good News of Jesus in Japan. Although many Japanese don't realize Christmas is actually the celebration of Christ's birth, the holiday gives us an open door to introduce people to the love of our Lord and Savior.

This year we had about 15 new students come to our different Christmas outreach events, including Shikin, whom I wrote about last month. After he heard the Gospel at the Christmas Party (above), Shikin prayed and received Christ! His friend Kaishu and I are continuing to meet with him for Bible study every other week. Please pray that Shikin would grow in his faith and get connected to a local church.

Last week we also had an opportunity to share the Gospel with a group of kids and their moms from Lela's preschool. A friend from church hosted a Christmas party in her home and invited us to give a short message. Afterwards, Jungshin was able to meet a couple moms whose kids will be in Lela's kindergarten class next spring. We look forward to developing those relationships in the years to come.

This week brings us some much-needed rest after another busy season of juggling family, studies, and ministry. On Christmas Day, we'll be traveling to attend our biennial Staff Conference (12/25-28). Then we'll have a few more days off before our New Year's Prayer Retreat (1/2-3) and the last month or so of the fall semester.

Thank you again for partnering with our family to reach the Japanese people in 2019. Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Praises & Prayer Requests

- Praise God for the 15 new students who came to Christmas events and for Shikin's salvation
- Praise God for the chance to meet and share the gospel with families from Lela's preschool
- Praise God for helping me finish three more of my seminary classes this semester!
- Pray that Shikin would continue to grow in Christ and get connected to a local church
- Pray that seeds of the Gospel planted in the families from Lela's preschool would bear fruit
- Pray for a restful winter break and refreshing time at the Staff Conference and Prayer Retreat
- Pray for the spiritual growth of the three men I am discipling this semester—Kaishu, Tomoki, and Micah—as well as for new believer Tsubasa, whom I am planning to meet next month



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