

Sayonara, Japan...



Annual Christmas CD outreach

No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him. (1 Cor. 2:9, NIV)

Happy New Year! My Korean teammates have a tradition of drawing Bible verses out of a hat to be their “word” for that year. This was my word for 2010.

In context, it’s a verse about the blessings that come through faith in Christ, which God has enabled us to understand by his Spirit. For me, it’s also a reminder that God really *does* love me and have a wonderful plan for my life.

This year, that wonderful plan involves me getting married and leaving Japan for a time to minister in Korea and America. I thank God for providing me with a wife. She’s certainly one of the greatest blessings I’ve ever been given.

But *no* blessing could compare to being God’s child. I’m excited to see how Jungshin and I can help one another continue to

grow in him. I know that God has great things prepared for us.

Still, it’s not easy to leave Osaka when God is clearly at work in me and our ministry. When I gave my *Christmas message* at church, I could see the fruit of my improved Japanese skills, experience, and deeper understanding of the gospel in the way that the people who listened were impacted.

And at our *CCC Christmas Party*, I got to watch as one student led a friend to Christ that he had been praying for for months. This same student was hardly even walking with the Lord two years ago. Truly, God is moving on the university campuses of Osaka!

I’m sad to have to leave **Yoshi**, **Yongwa** and **Junpei**—the Christian guys I’ve invested so much time and energy in this semester—as well as all the non-Christian men I’ve prayed for and shared Christ with over the past year. But I’m grateful for the way God has used me in their lives, and I trust he’ll take care of them once I’m gone, just as he did before I came.

I’m confident, too, that my most effective years of service in Japan are still ahead of me. God’s call upon my life has not changed: the harvest is still plentiful, and the workers are still few.

When I do come back, I’ll just be that much more ready for whatever God has for me. And wherever it pleases him to lead me in

the meantime, I’ll keep sharing the gospel and making disciples.

Thank you so much for standing with me. I would not be here without your prayers and support, and I praise God for the love that he has shown to me through you.

Here’s to the adventures that God has for all of us in 2010! I’ll write you next month from Korea.

Prayer Requests

- **Junpei** starts Bible study with a pastor friend next week. That he would continue growing and get solidly connected to the church.
- **Yoshi** begins grad school in April. That he would be a light for Christ on his new campus.
- **Yongwa** to get more involved with our CCC community
- Salvation for all the freshmen guys I’ve been meeting with
- Prep to leave on *January 12th*
- That people would be blessed and God glorified through our wedding on *January 30th*

Ryan



Weekly Bible study with Junpei