

# DOWNTOWN WITH THE BROWNS

A NEW YEAR OF HOPE AND JOY

January 2025



## ようこそ東京へ (Welcome back to Tokyo!)



This was Jena's second year leading a vision trip to Tokyo with three students, two interns and one staff! The team was able to connect with the in-country team (made up of Americans, Japanese and Koreans) to do evangelism on campuses as well as help to host a Christmas party at the Cru weekly meeting. One highlight was being able to connect with a couple who had been on the Tokyo Vision Trip team last year who are now serving full time there! Japan is the second largest unreached people group in the world -- statistically speaking, there is one missionary for every 62,000+ people. SI Tokyo (the name of the Cru movement)

has a vision to see 2% of the population reached with the gospel by 2040. We hope to help them to reach that goal by continuing to send laborers there, starting with our staff Mason who will be leading the Summer Mission in May!



## Winter Conference 2024!



After the holidays it is in our staff life rhythms to help run our Winter Conference in Washington DC! We had a group of 22 attend this year from Sweet Briar College, Randolph, CVCC and Liberty -as well as a student, Grace, from Mary Washington University! There were speakers who shared on being a part of the Great Commission, a bookstore with incredible resources, seminars on everything from anxiety and depression to how to pray, a day of outreach, and a dance-party-turned-worship-concert to ring in the New Year. One highlight for all in attendance was the surprise visit on New Year's Even by David Platt, pastor and author of the book Radical. Jena got to meet with him and he prayed for our family! But the greatest highlight for all of us in Lynchburg Cru, as mentioned in the last letter, was getting the opportunity to lead Stacia from CVCC to Jesus on the day of outreach! What made it even MORE incredible was that after Jena and Stacia shared about the experience onstage, during the next worship song, Grace placed HER faith in Christ! We are overjoyed with seeing these new sisters in the faith!

## PRAYER REQUESTS

- Praise God for our time in Tokyo and the people we were able to share the gospel with!
- Thank you for the students that were transformed through their time with God and community at Winter Conference (please pray especially for Stacia and Grace as they begin their respective journeys with Jesus).
- Please pray for our upcoming Leadership Retreats at each of our campuses- that we would make wise decisions on how to steward our resources.

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