

JOE CONGDON

Serving in Tokyo, Japan November 20th, 2006

CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST

Halloween Outreach a Success!

"KOWAI!" (I'm scared) I overheard some students mutter as I read a ghost story to them at our Halloween Outreach party last month. After I read a few ghost stories I had the awesome opportunity to share about how **Jesus explained in Luke 24 that He was different than a ghost.** To give context to this story of how the disciples were frightened at the sight of the resurrected Christ, I first shared the Gospel and explained why Jesus had to die and come back. We then broke the students into discussion groups and had them talk about this difference between Jesus and a ghost. This quickly became an opportunity for the staff to individually share the gospel with many at the party!

I am so thankful for the natural



Above I share at our Halloween Outreach. I dressed up like a Japanese Raccoon! Ayumi, JCCC staff, translates for me. She dressed as a fried shrimp!

way this particular day allowed us to bring up topics like death and redemption. We spent the two weeks leading up to the

party passing out **1,500 flyers at Waseda University.** Nearly **90 students** from universities from all over Tokyo visited the party throughout the night. Many of them filled out contact cards, indicating interest in talking further about spirituality. We are now in the process of following up with each student who came, challenging them with Christ's claims while He was on Earth.

We'll be throwing a similar Thanksgiving Outreach party on November 27th. Part of that outreach will include a Gospel choir concert, a talk on the history of Thanksgiving, but more importantly a student testimony and Gospel presentation. **Please pray that at least 100 students will come hear about Jesus for the first time!**

New Campuses and New Witnessing Tools



The Lord continues to both push us and provide for us. We have divided our team of nine into four different pioneering teams, each responsible for a new campus in the city. Being an art major, I am particularly excited about my new campus, **Tokyo Arts University.** We are trusting God to raise up enough students to have movements launched on each of these campuses by the end of the year! It can not happen without your prayers.

Notes on My Life

My grandfather, Papa Vic, left us to be with the Lord last month. Please pray for me and my family as we walk through this difficult time of loss. I am so thankful that Papa Vic knew the Lord and that we can rejoice and be thankful as we celebrate his long life that was characterized by the way he **sacrificially served his God, country and family.**

Paul explains in 2nd Timothy that serving in ministry involves a certain amount of sacrifice and suffering. Please pray for my team, as I believe all nine of us

As He pushes us to these new campuses, He is also providing new, unique ways for us to engage the students with the Gospel. Our team was recently chosen to test a new tool which involves showing a student a series of fifty different postcard-sized images that reflect a wide array of feelings, emotions and life situations. We go through a short survey with the students in which we ask them questions about their life and ask them to respond using the cards. **The cards have been extremely effective in helping the students feel comfortable about describing their lives.** This is invaluable because many times it is very hard for Japanese students to open up, especially with strangers.

The cards have created awesome opportunities for us to describe our own spiritual journeys. In nearly every case we have been able to share the Gospel as a result of the students wanting to hear our story after we connect with them.

are all going through unique struggles that are helping us understand what it means to suffer for the Gospel. **During this holiday season it is especially hard for us to be away from our friends and family.** Please pray that the Lord would comfort us during this difficult stage of our ministry as He uses each of us to minister to each other.

It is hard to describe the incredible blessing that it is to be able to serve our God in Tokyo this year. I am really feeling used and fulfilled in ministry as

This is amazing considering most of my previous experiences sharing with students end quickly due to lack of interest on the their part.

Please pray for **Yuriko** who is a potential leader at Tokyo Arts University. After we shared with her she was very excited about getting together soon to continue the discussion. Through this art card survey I was also able to meet a guy named **Haru** at Waseda University. I was able to share Christ with him and he responded by saying that he wanted to make God happy because he realized that he has led a sinful life. (He even has a tattoo that says, "Sinner!") After I told him that he could only make God happy by repenting and trusting in the death of Christ, he responded by saying, **"But most Japanese people have never heard that."** Haru could not be more right. Please join me in continuing to pray daily for the souls of the Japanese, that someday this statement would not be true!

never before. **Thank you for serving along side of me in Japan with your prayers and support!**

Please Pray for

Joe

- Our new campuses, Housei, Rikkyo, Nihon and Tokyo Arts Universities
- Our Thanksgiving Outreach
- Spiritual Health of my team