

The Seed in the Stump

Joe & Felicity Congdon

Isa. 6:13

St. Louis Metro
Campus Crusade for Christ

Tokyo, Japan
Church Planting

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We Are Ready For Japan!!

After our five-day formal Readiness Evaluation (REV) last month, we were accepted with no reservations to serve long-term in Tokyo, Japan on a church planting team! Thank you so much for your prayers. We had a great time getting to know refugees from Nepal, the Congo, and Eritrea as well as other Mission to the World missionaries who shared stories about what they are seeing God do all over the world, including in Japan.

Now that we have been accepted as staff with Mission to the World, we will begin the process of switching mission agencies. We love Campus Crusade for Christ! It is hard to say goodbye to an agency that has such an amazing vision, such global impact for God's kingdom, and has been so foundational in our personal development and training, but MTW is where we have clearly seen the Lord leading us over the past year.



Serving refugees as part of our evaluation

You have cared for us so well though your faithful prayers and financial support over the past seven years of our work with CRU, and we hope and pray that you will continue to partner with us as we transition to ministry in Japan. For those of you who regularly invest financially in our ministry, we will be sending a letter in one week communicating more details about why we are switching and how you can switch your giving from Campus Crusade for Christ to Mission to the World.

For quick, clear instructions on how to switch your giving, please visit this simple site that we made to guide you: www.tiny.cc/2mtw

We will continue working for CRU through the end of the school year, while we begin our responsibilities with MTW in March. We will start getting paid by MTW in March as long as there is enough support coming into our account. It would be most helpful for us if you were able to take a few moments this month to make the change.

Hannah Meets Jesus

Caitlin felt stuck in the middle... Living in community is tough! Caitlin was having serious roommate issues and was worried that it would affect the way Hannah, a non-Christian, thinks about God.

Hannah didn't trust the others enough to tell them what was bothering her. Caitlin brought everyone together one night to talk and she was able to help Hannah to talk about her frustrations—they hadn't realized Hannah had unmet expectations of them. Over the next couple of months, they all grew closer. Hannah had a front-row seat to seeing how her Christian roommates loved each other through conflict.

Pretty soon, Hannah was asking Caitlin if she could come to church with her. Caitlin, of course, invited her that Sunday, and Hannah cried throughout the whole sermon. She told Caitlin afterward that she

knew she had been running from God for so long, she was overwhelmed to finally be sitting in church. Hannah gave her life to Christ that week, and continues to grow in community with Caitlin, Molly, and Megan.

Monthly Facts About Japan

For the past two years, Tokyo has been ranked #1 most expensive city in the world. Though the Japanese are financially wealthy, they are spiritually needy. Most of them have never heard the gospel in any form. There are many cities with no church at all. Hiroki, a Japanese international student I met in Illinois, did not even believe that the Bible had been translated into



Hannah & Caitlin



Japanese until I gave him one.

God has provided generous ministry partners for us over the past seven years, graciously meeting all of our needs. **Now we are trusting Him to provide twice as much monthly support so that we can minister to those in Tokyo.** Would you ask the Lord if He wants to use you as an answer to our prayers for the Japanese? If you are already a monthly supporter, would you prayerfully consider doubling your support or increasing by \$20/mo as you switch your giving to MTW?