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April 26, 2019

Dear Friends,

The beginning of the school year has continued to be exciting as we meet many new students! China (pronounced "Cheena") was one of the most intriguing new friends we made.

We met two girls who were undeniably on the quiet side, China and An. But both had experience studying abroad and the desire to practice English for more trips overseas in the future. At first we engaged with them about traveling and music. Then, when conversation deepened, we learned about China's true dreams. Studying English was actually primarily a mandate from her mother. Her true goal is to go to nursing school once she completes her current program, pacifying her mom. The reason: she wants to help people and sees practicing medicine or nursing as almost being like a god.

Since our initial chat, China attended our sports picnic, meeting many more Christians (other Japanese students as well as more American interns and staff) and both China and An attended a welcome gathering where they heard testimonies from three students about how they came to know Christ. We haven't yet had the opportunity to ask more deeply about her desire to help people and become like a god, because China's constantly meeting new members of our community at these events and had to leave early at the last one. She also planned to attend a viewing of the Jesus Film (which directly shares the gospel) but she got a fever the day before. Yet it's clear that she's attracted to the supernatural and very curious to learn more about Jesus due to this interest she has. This is a rare case in Japan! She's genuinely interested and has multiple touch points to make her feel comfortable learning more alongside us. Please pray for her!

China and An also introduced us to their friend and classmate Aine last week. Please pray we can gain her trust as well, and build our relationships with her and the many other students we're meeting.

Another highlight of the school year so far was spending the afternoon with Yukako and Sarasa. Sarasa entered university with the desire to grow closer to Jesus and start sharing Him with others. Yukako, currently a third year student, and I invited her into a weekly time of outreach on campus, and it was so fun to see Yukako teaching and guiding her. I truly look forward many more weeks alongside these sweet girls, stepping boldly out in faith to represent our Lord.



Yukako, Sarasa, and I celebrated a great afternoon and Sarasa's first outreach time with ice cream 😊

In Christ,

Christina

Please join me in praying for~

- ❖ The new students we've been able to meet and welcome into our community (especially China and An)
- ❖ For students to keep learning from each other as Sarasa did from Yukako
- ❖ Praise that Ayaka is already sharing that she's a Christian and inviting girls in her dorm to hear about Christ