

Christina Eads
7-14-26 Grace Court 305
Tokyo, Mitaka-shi, Shimorenjaku
181-0013
Japan



Japan Campus Crusade for Christ
christina.eads@gmail.com

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Touring Kawagoe with Tomomi and Hinako

Dear Friend,

Recently, I had the privilege of meeting Hinako, who is in her final year at Rikkyo University. We really hit it off having coffee with some girls from the final summer mission team. Hinako was excited to meet foreigners and extremely interested in talking about Jesus and the gospel. On the way to the train station she said she might become a Christian someday.

I was eager to see her again before summer break, so I absolutely jumped on the chance to meet one more of her friends, Tomomi. They invited me to join them to dress up in traditional Japanese summer clothing and visit a traditional area of Tokyo and a temple.

Both girls are graduating next spring and are currently “job-hunting.” Under the pressure of interviewing and deciding between companies, Hinako and Tomomi wanted to take an afternoon and evening off to relax. They also wanted to pay the gods a visit, just in case it might bring them luck. Apparently, this particular temple is specifically for luck in marriage. The girls commented on how they had a lot to pray about right now.

Hinako was very sweet and confirmed with me that it was ok for me to go to the temple even though I’m a Christian. I told her that I wouldn’t participate in any of the customs but would just watch. As we approached the temple, Hinako explained to Tomomi that I wouldn’t pray with them since I’m a Christian. I’ve been to a lot of temples before, but this one seemed to have various means of making wishes and seeking favor. As the girls were fishing to see what kind of luck they will have in love, and then tying it up on the posts before the gods, I wished they knew the God that created them more than ever. Please keep praying with me for Japan!

In Christ,

Christina

Please join me in praying for~

- Hinako and Tomomi to know Jesus
- Yurichan to keep growing in her faith over the summer
- Our Tokyo mission, September 1st-7th



We posed in front of one of many sections of wind-chimes with wishes attached.