

Christina Eads
814 Goldenrod St.
Placentia, CA 92870

christina.eads@gmail.com
(760) 443 9676

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Dearest Friend,

This year, I haven't heard the usual buzz about New Year resolutions. However, my running club had waned to two or three on Saturday mornings at the end of 2010. This past week? Two dozen runners! The New Year definitely seems to give us hope for change. I'm excited to share with you about some change in the lives of students and in my own life!

The San Diego Winter Conference aids students in bringing in the New Year focused on Jesus. Hundreds gather and experience heart change. I'm floored by the masses of students that share their faith for the first time. The afternoon we spent downtown, students and staff engaged in 365 conversations about the gospel. In four hours, 37 people made a decision to follow Christ and are now connected to churches in the area!



Conference attendees made significant decisions as well. On the final evening, 614 students committed more fully to Jesus. A handful trusted in Him for the first time, and others surrendered their lives in new ways. Many men and women indicated God's leading to go on a mission trip here in the States or internationally. Others simply pledged to obey Jesus more wholeheartedly. A freshman from Cal State Fullerton wrote on her Facebook status, "SD Winter Conference was amazing! I was totally moved into a deeper relationship with the Lord!"

So glad I was able to start the new year worshipping Him with so many awesome people! ♥ Praise Jesus!"

I rejoice to see students surrender. It was at Winter Conference that I first listened to God's promptings to consider going to the world. Because I wanted to follow God's will when I graduated, I reluctantly headed to Japan for one year. Four years later, God is giving me another opportunity to serve overseas, and my heart is overflowing with gratitude! In the fall, I'll go to Japan for a minimum of three years!

Believers comprise less than 1% of Japan's population. They are in desperate need of more laborers. When I visited for a month last summer, my dear friend Fumi said, "We are always waiting for you. This is like a dream." For some reason, God chooses to show his love through people. Somehow, when we care for our brothers and sisters, they're truly blessed by God. I'm in complete awe that God would transform my heart to show His love to Japanese people and to me. There are millions upon millions who need to hear about Him in Japan. I can't wait to stand by the select force that does know Him on that island!

Hope in Christ,

Christina

Please pray for:

- ◆ The Japanese students and staff and my preparations to return to Japan!
- ◆ Continued growth in Christ for Cal State Fullerton students and for the "Boxes of Love" Campaign this semester to allow us to build relationships with the dorms, Greek students, and campus