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Dearest Supporters,

About a month after getting back to America, it has started to feel like home again. I no longer feel strange getting in the car instead of walking places, and I very rarely bow to people anymore! Most of all, as an answer to prayer, God has restored an overall feeling of joy to me!

I feel so blessed now when I talk to my friends in Japan. Although we still miss each other, it seems there is more of a peace now when we can email or chat. I'm able to think of everyone there with more of a fondness rather than sadness now and find it a joy to pray for them!

It's also very nice to feel more a part of my family's lives again. There has been a lot of excitement with my cousin Sarah's wedding this past month. It was a beautiful ceremony and evening; I was privileged to be a bridesmaid for the first time. I was also blessed to see everyone in my family in such great spirits, smiling and having a great time! The next day was also special, because we had a party for my sister Irina's birthday. I loved this and truly missed celebrating birthdays with my family while I was in Japan.



This summer I've also really enjoyed being reunited with friends and with my church. I love being able to call friends without worrying about a 16 hour time difference! The women's Bible study at my church has also had a big impact on me. I am so thankful for loving women who I can study the Word of God with. Vacation Bible School was also a fun time helping out at the church. We learned about the power of God, and I was specifically touched by the lesson about how "God gives us the power to be brave!"

I'll be moving away from these amazing friends and family again, but this time it doesn't seem so significant. Fullerton is nothing after Tokyo! It's exciting to think about a reunion with my teammates Jonathan and Kristen and also with Jared. I'll be moving up on August 10th, and planning for the new semester begins August 12th. Please pray for us as we prepare for the first six weeks of the school year and meet with student leaders. We will have an over-nighter to get to know the students and plan together on the 15th. I am so excited to be with students again, this time with no concern of a language barrier!

I also appreciate your continued prayers for my financial support. My monthly needs are still great, but I am reminded of what it says in Proverbs, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart"!

Sincerely,

Christina