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Dear Friends,

One of my favorite parts of the week is having Shion over for discipleship. In groups she's ultra quiet, but I love to listen when she opens up about what's on her mind. Recently, we talked, cried, and prayed about telling others about Christ.

Shion is a freshman at a nearby women's university who lives in a Christian dorm about a three-minute walk from my apartment. She comes every Tuesday morning to study the Bible and grow together in our faith in Christ. After I heat up some frozen berries and make some tea that she never drinks until the very end, we learn and pray together. Over the past several weeks, the topic of sharing the gospel has come up a number of times. Shion shared honestly about her fear of being unable to share as boldly as some of the upper classmen around her. We talked about our attitudes and motivations for telling friends about Jesus.

One week, our lesson had a clear challenge to try sharing a gospel tract with someone. I knew Shion was hesitant but could see that she wanted to try. The following week, she shared, in her quiet but joyful way, about her conversation with Umeka. After class, she had the opportunity to share the gospel Umeka. Shion was surprised at how smoothly it went and how her classmate was fairly interested and enjoyed learning about Christ. This past week, we had our annual Christmas outreach. When I happened to get up from the conversations I'd been having, I looked at saw Shion sharing the gospel tract with Mayuka, who's attended all of our recent events. This Tuesday Shion was full of joy to report that Mayuka had prayed to receive Christ!

I'm in awe of how the words of the Bible and some simple prayers for faith and compassion can change our hearts. I hoped that Shion would eventually have the courage to tell her friends about the blessings she's found in Jesus but didn't imagine it would happen this fast. It's amazing the impact other students have had on her and how she can now share with her friends and classmates! Please be praying for all of these students during this Christmas season!

In Christ,

Christina

Please join me in praying for~

- ❖ Shion who is faithfully sharing the gospel with her friends and classmates
- ❖ Tsuzumi who recently accepted Christ and is already sharing her testimony with others
- ❖ Those who have been hearing and will hear the true Christmas message for the first time