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Dear Friend,



Two students I've been privileged to work with are Mari and Shiori. It's amazing how close you can become just by doing a bit of accounting, but I decided we also needed some time to just relax together. The girls picked Nepalese food, which is pretty popular in Tokyo, and you can see us pictured with the kind Nepalese restaurant owner and our lassi drink.

Both ladies have served in ministry in various capacities. Mari was on the team I first went with to volunteer where the tsunami hit. She's also talented with serving on the worship team. Shiori already has her bachelor's degree and will graduate from a vocational school and become a pastry chef this month. She coordinated all of the

cooking for our Christmas outreach last year (and made cream puffs for over 60 people.)

I love filling different roles in ministry with these girls, but having a quiet dinner together with no distractions was my best time with them yet. We laughed together and joked about setting each other up guys from each of our different churches. More than ever before, we sympathized and empathized with each other about the challenges we're facing. A lot of our conversation was about how we hear from God. I know none of us left completely confident that we know God's will for our lives. But we did all share testimonies of how He's directed us in the past through prayer and the Bible. I think we all left with a little more pep in our step and with full hearts.

We would appreciate your prayers so much! Mari is about to be a senior, so she's in the middle of "job-hunting". She's also seeking new ways to reach out to her fellow students in her final year. Please pray that all of her friends and classmates would experience Christ's love through her. Shiori is questioning whether or not she took the right job, since it will require her to work on Sundays and miss church. She's also begun sharing more about her faith with her family, particularly with her grandma who she currently lives with. Please pray we can all shine everywhere we go.

In Christ,

Christina

Please join me in praying for~

- ✧ Shiori and Mari's continued trust in God's leading for their lives
- ✧ Mio, who just spent her 27<sup>th</sup> birthday in the hospital (fifth birthday in a row)
- ✧ Our upcoming national conference, CHANGE, (3/11-14) to inspire and equip students and staff to share Jesus' love more and more in Japan and the world