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Dear Friend,



We did a prayer walk to cover Rena's university before she studies abroad.

Rena is a 4<sup>th</sup> year student at an all girls' University, Tsudajuku. Her dad is a pastor, and Rena share's his passion for ministry. Over the past year or two, I've gotten to hear about how she persevered through months of setting up prayer meetings at her school but being the only one to show up. Then finally there was a break-through her third year. They now have a club on campus with up to 10 girls coming to get a taste of Bible study and fellowship.

More recently, I was able to talk deeply with Rena about her challenges in leading the group. She's been pleased to see a few girls, both Christian and non-Christian, become more committed to

the club and desiring to know God more fully. However, Rena is preparing to study in America for the next year and will only have a short time back in Japan as a 5<sup>th</sup> year student. She has had concerns about finding the next leader and trouble trusting that the girls will continue to gather regularly and keep learning about Jesus.

It has been a joy to see God provide a new leader as well as someone who will be there to support her in her leadership and work together with her. I'm so thankful that the work Rena has started will continue in her absence and look forward to coming alongside the girls as well. However, the greatest joy has been seeing Rena grow in faith and maturity. At first, she seemed really disappointed that nobody was as dedicated as she was. Gradually, she has begun meeting the girls where they are in their relationship with God and each other and learning how to encourage and challenge them. Rena organized a prayer walk for her campus, which demonstrated that she is excited for God's continued hand at Tsudajuku and depending on Him to do the work.

When we met last week, Rena seemed so much more at ease about going abroad and trusting God will continue to bless her university. Personally, she recognizes that going to school and sharing her faith in English will be humbling. This was a great chance for us both to return to truth of the gospel. We talked about how our value and identity are not in how effective we are for God or how much we have to offer to people. I assured her that although I've had struggles in Japan and felt helpless at times, God has proved strong in my weaknesses and has provided everything I've needed. Please pray we will grow in trusting Him.



I can see that since the prayer walk God has given Rena more peace and confidence.

In Christ,

Christina

Please join me in praying for~

- ✧ Rena to have courage and joy as she studies in Minnesota for the next year
- ✧ The younger students she's leaving behind (especially Mariko, Noa, and Junko)
- ✧ God's continued blessing over all of Tsudajuku University