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Dear Friends,



There are certain things I forget now that I've been going to church for quite a while. For example, that your very first time you don't know what's appropriate to wear or what to expect. A couple months back when Mana came for the first time, she was asking about the dress code and sort of fidgeting like the first day of school. But on Easter she joined us again, and this time we were laughing the whole way from the station. In fact she was so relaxed that she slept through half of the sermon.

I kept praying that God would wake her up if there was something she really needed to hear, and thankfully she stayed alert during both of the testimonies before the baptisms we had after the message. Perhaps more importantly, this time she stayed for dinner. After fellowshiping over taco rice, which was a little chaotic with all of the guests for the baptisms, I was so relieved to hear Mana's conclusion. She noted that there is such a strong connection between everyone at church.

Mana will be starting her second year at Gakugei University. She just believed in Christ at the end of last year after receiving a gospel tract from some of our Cru interns. They introduced me since there is a fairly strong language barrier, and we found out that she had read the entire Bible before meeting them. She was so thankful to finally have someone explain the main points of the gospel clearly, even though she had challenges communicating and countless questions. Now she's able to not only read about Jesus but also see the body of Christ in action. Please pray that I could help direct Mana in how to grow in her faith and connect her to the community at our church!

Please also pray that this school year we can meet many more students longing to hear about Jesus. I don't know how many others go looking for meaning in life and end up reading all of the Scriptures, but I'm confident there are more students searching for purpose and that the only place they can truly find it is in the gospel of Jesus. Please pray particularly for students at Gakugei, Waseda, and Rikkyo Universities, as well as ICU, a handful of women's universities, and the Lutheran college where we have connections. Thank you!!

In Christ,

Christina

Please pray for~

- ❖ Mana, who is just beginning to grow in faith in Christ and connect at church
- ❖ Praise for Spring Camp and unity among the students (pics @ christina.eads@blogspot.com)
- ❖ Effective execution of plans for the new school year, including an international food night, a holiday picnic, weekly English classes, and various parties/meals in April.