

Christina Eads  
7-14-26 Grace Court 305  
Tokyo, Mitaka-shi, Shimorenjaku  
181-0013  
Japan



Japan Campus Crusade for Christ  
christina.eads@gmail.com

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Dear Friend,

Coincidentally, this year I spent Thanksgiving with my Korean co-worker's wife and children. It was my first time having fish, miso soup, and kimchi for Thanksgiving, but it was all really good! I also happened to have one pack of pumpkin pop-tarts left that my mom sent, which made a perfect dessert when I got home. ☺



Thankfully, as we all know, turkey is not essential in order to be grateful. Plus, on Tuesday I had a really fun experience that also gave me a break from Japanese. Sometimes the students I meet speak in English, and even one girl and I study the Bible in English together. However, the majority of students hold back even if they want to practice English conversation, so I decided to hold an official study time to teach English.

Tuesday was a trial for my English class, but it seemed like a success. One future staff member, Chihiro, and four students, Yona, Kouki, Mika, and Kanako joined. They might hesitate to speak English in normal situations, because Japanese students so often fear making mistakes or not being understood. But when we created a time and space that was relaxed but devoted to learning English, everyone practiced freely.

This time, all the members were regular attendees of our weekly meeting, but two non-Christian students also showed strong interest in coming. Unfortunately, those two cancelled at the last minute, but when I advertized the class, it was clear that some of the content would be from the Bible. My hope is for students to also invite friends who desire to practice English and learn about the Bible. Almost all the students I meet are actively seeking chances to speak English, and many of them also see that as a good excuse to learn about Christianity. Some friends have come to the English service at my church solely to practice English. I hope that this class will serve as another opportunity to meet a warm community of Christians and learn about God's love and truth while studying English. We'll be meeting monthly starting in January and would love your prayers!

In Christ,

Christina

Please join me in praying for~

- ❖ My new English time to bless students both educationally and spiritually
- ❖ Christmas outreaches (my Bible study will have a small gathering on 12/15)
- ❖ For students in America to consider missions in Japan (I'll be home for Christmas with family and then joining a conference in San Diego with Rena and Qsang, a student and co-worker, to promote internships with us in Tokyo)