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,

One of my favorite things about Japan is unexpected holidays. With October comes Physical Education Day and a perfect opportunity to play sports in the park! My coworkers and I celebrated alongside students from ICU High School with flag football, ultimate Frisbee, and ironically two enormous ice cream sundaes. I actually didn't participate in the games due to a minor foot injury. However, that was a blessing in disguise. A freshman girl named Shihori was set against going to the event because she hates sports. But when I told her I was bringing my Japanese homework, she was enthusiastic about coming to practice her English!

Another great opportunity between games was a conversation with Hiro, a senior who I met last fall. We're always grateful for her involvement in our activities. Hiro's extremely fun and outgoing, and as the former president of her school is also very influential. She shared with me her current worry over which university to attend next year.

Hiro, like many Japanese students, has faced a lot of pressure to make decisions early about her future. Since junior high, Hiro has been on a special track to enter a very prestigious school, Keio University. Unfortunately, on her first attempt, she didn't pass the entrance exam. On the other hand, she can attempt the test two more times. Hiro was also accepted to another great school, Sophia University. But feeling uncertain about the future has caused her to consider praying to God for guidance. We talked about how we've made decisions in the past, and I shared God's faithfulness to always help and guide me when I ask Him.

Please pray with me that Hiro will come to depend on God's grace for decision-making and every area of her life. My hope is that she will come to know Jesus and share about Him wherever she ends up going to school. Please also pray for all of these high school students to continue learning about God as they study hard to prepare for entrance exams.



In Christ,

Christina

Please pray for ICU High School Students:

- To seek God's help when facing various pressures (i.e. exams and decision-making)
- ◆ To see Christ and His love through our Thanksgiving Dinner, November 23rd
- ♦ And for my relationships with freshman Shihori and senior Hiro