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Dear Friends,

After quite a rich time of encouragement with many of you in the States, I jumped right back into things here in Japan with our annual national student conference. Yako was one of the many students I had the joy of spending the week alongside. Her and all the girls in my discussion group amazed me with their maturity and desire to live godly lives of impact.

Yako didn't know any other Christians on her campus. She was ecstatic when Natsumi from her university contacted her on Instagram in response to her profile saying she was Christian. This gave Yako the courage to start a Bible study on her campus with her new friend. Since like many schools in Japan her campus is highly wary of cults, no outsiders are allowed to join. But their gathering has grown as a few other ladies have expressed interest in learning about the Bible.

Yako loves the fact that God provided another believer, but she's conflicted because her counterpart isn't willing to invite friends or tell them she's a Christian. She feels alone in her desire to see more women come to know Christ, and she's weary, to some extent, of waiting to see the current members respond to Christ's love and truth.

Please pray for Yako and her friends. I just saw another girl just like Natsumi start to desire to be open about her faith. At the conference, Shiho from Tokyo was really touched by the other students' joy in sharing the gospel. She's been wrestling for a while but seems to really want to tell her friends that she's a Christian now. Please pray Natsumi would also grow in this way and that their other friends would come to faith in Christ.

Please also pray for the new school year! We have spring camp next week where the students will be praying and planning about what they can do on their campuses. My hope is that more and more of them will share Yako's heart and boldness to shine in their own ways. We'll also discuss the importance of first continuing to fellowship with Jesus and grow in our own relationships with Him before we go about trying to serve Him. Please pray that all of us, students, interns, and staff, would learn more about being a disciple of Jesus.

In Christ,  
  
Christina

Please join me in praying for~

- ❖ Praise for encouragement and inspiration at the national student conference the 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ Students like Yuka, looking to fortunes but also learning slowly about trust in Christ (I leave for Hong Kong with her March 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>)