

Summary of October - New Beginnings

*Began Japanese classes

*Began our weekly
Waseda English lunches

*Began attending Beats
(weekly Campus Crusade
large group) and JCCC
staff meetings



*Joe and I began to meet
up with JCCC staff
members Patrick and
Ayumi, our in-country
advisers/disciplers

*Began sharing on campus

*Began discipleship times
with the girls on our team



*Tagged along with
Shimada-sensei and Isaac
Kama who were visiting
from my home church in
San Lorenzo for a weekend
(went to a wedding,
baptism and Masaki and
Sodegaura's worship
services)



(I also got a special visit
from Keiko Clark, my old
friend and Sunday school
teacher from San Lorenzo.)

*Background picture taken in
Shimada-sensei's car on the
way to Sodegaura Church
from Masaki Church

"Umm, I'm supposed to do what?"

I've disciplined girls before and I've loved it. But honestly, I don't think I have ever felt so humbled as right now. As Associate Team Leader, one of my responsibilities is to disciple the girls of our team. The women on our team are *amazing* and I'm learning so much from them. I'm not sure if I'm really "discipling" them, but I definitely take joy in what God is doing in and through their lives . . .

Soo Jin is our only returning STINTer. She's reconnecting with Waseda students she met last year and is especially excited about the English circle (club) she's in. The leadership in the Waseda English Circle has asked Soo Jin to be a leader in their monthly discussion times, which means Soo Jin can pick the topic of what students talk about! Pray for the English circle and discernment for Soo Jin as she leads the discussion time.

Jody is coming to yet a deeper and refreshing view of God's redeeming love for her own life and her passion is overflowing to our team and others. I witnessed her share with a Waseda girl who didn't understand English, but somehow when Jody shared the story of how God changed her life, the girl could suddenly understand and said Jody's story was very "clear"! Pray for Jody to continually take steps of faith and trust in the Lord despite the language barrier.

Emily's discipling a new believer named Naoko. Naoko came to know the Lord with the summer project team this past summer. When Emily contacted her, Naoko had not been to church and was trying to study the Bible on her own. She told Emily that she felt weak and "stupid" in her faith - but she wanted to know more. Of course Em's been happy to meet with her weekly to learn what it means to believe a follower of Christ! Pray for Naoko's new life in Christ and for wisdom for Emily as she leads her.

Kelly loves making friends and being a good friend to others - which is especially wonderful being in such a relational culture. But that also makes fear of rejection bigger, so it is difficult for Kel to bring up Jesus in a conversation. One day out of the blue, Kelly suddenly had a passion to share with whoever would hear about Jesus. She went out on campus and boldly and clearly shared the real reason why she was in Japan and at Waseda. She got rejected about ten times, but Kelly didn't care! (Maybe the *really* direct approach isn't the best way to go). Pray for Kel's faith to be daily and continually strengthened.

Winnie's taken her own steps of faith by going sharing on her own and as a result has had divine appointments with students who have needed to and wanted to hear about Jesus. Winnie also led our team through the Worldwide Day of Prayer and is organizing our weekly English lunches. For our English lunch at Waseda, we're using a curriculum developed by the Osaka STINT team and have seen success in connecting with students and teaching useful English that students wouldn't necessarily learn in the classroom (like "hang out", "peace out", "let's bounce", etc.). Pray for our English lunch times and for Winnie to continually seek Jesus first.

Please keep our guys, Kermit, Joe and Daniel in your prayers as well. Earlier this month, Daniel returned to the United States for his brother's wedding and ended up having to have his tonsils taken out. Pray for a quick and complete recovery. Lord-willingly, he'll return to our team on October 31. Pray also for me to find my adequacy, strength and wisdom in the Lord alone!

Thank you so much for your thoughts and prayers! We serve a God who hears and answers!

