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ジョイの

JAPAN JOURNAL

日本 (にほん)

日誌 (にっし)

January 17, 2011

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Happy New Year 2011 明けましておめでとう

THANKFUL FOR 2010,
LOOKING FORWARD TO 2011
AND ALL THAT IT MAY HOLD

Therefore, if anyone
is in Christ, the new
creation has come:
The old has gone,
the new is here!
2 Corinthians 5:17

Wow, what a whirlwind of a month and a half! I've written and re-written this letter to you as I've tried to capture and put into words everything that's happened since I last wrote. So please accept my apologies for being a little late in getting this update out.

First, I'll give you a brief update on the Christmas season in Japan since I know many of you prayed for our events. Our FREE (student gospel choir) and "Holy Spirit" student dance team's joint event was Christ-centered, fun, meaningful and original. Aside from the usual singing, dancing and testimony, we also had an original video, skit wirtten by one of our choir members and dinner/discussion time together. That night, a high school student named Hiro who had joined our choir in November humbly gave his life to Christ and



Christmas in Seattle (my very first Christmas with my grandparents!)



Back in CA for Nehira side of the family!



Back in Japan with Ayu, 2nd year

家族のことが本当に大好きです。
kazoku no koto ga honto ni dai suki desu.

I really love my family.

"If you have time to
see me, please tell
me. I want you to
tell me about
Got. :)" - Ayu
1/12/11



"Holy Spirit" and FREE "A Gift for You" Concert



Miwako and Mana

shared with a few of us that he was "amazed that God would *let* him be a Christian" (of course he said that in Japanese). The best part though was seeing (and overhearing since my small group of girls was squeezed right next to his small group of guys) Hiro's friends share the gospel with him and then gathering around him to pray. That was one joyful group of guys! There've been many special 2010 moments, and witnessing Hiro pray to receive Christ is just another one of those moments to praise God for!

HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

If I had stayed in Tokyo, this would have been my fourth Christmas here. Thankfully, I got to spend the Christmas season here in Tokyo (I didn't even have to miss Christmas Sunday here!) AND in the States. My purpose in going home was really to be

with family (especially in Seattle), so I'm sorry I didn't get to see many of you. But I do value you! Being away from Japan and hearing different perspectives from people I really respect as Christian mentors gave me a chance to think and pray about Japan and my future. I'm wrestling with a few different options regarding my future so if you can join me in prayer for wisdom I'd really appreciate that. Thank you!

BACK IN JAPAN

As soon as I got back to Japan, "normal" life resumed. Meeting with students, meetings with JCCC staff, Japanese classes, student sleepover...as much as I miss home, I'm grateful to be back. And I look forward to whatever 2011 may bring!

By His Grace alone, Jessica Joy

Prayer Corner

Praising God for...

*all the Christmas events that pointed people to Jesus.

(At my small, normally 30-person church 89 people came to our Christmas outreach concert!)

*Hiro's salvation

*Haruka (new believer) coming to church

*an amazing family, good friends and wise mentors in the U.S. and Japan

Praying for...

*growth of Hiro, Toshiki, Haruka #1, Haruka #2, Miwako and Mana (2010 new believers)

*wisdom in making decisions that affect my future

*family and friends at home in tough situations