

Jessica Joy's Journal of Journeys



February 11, 2008

Dear Co-journeymers,

Last month our team left freezing and snowy Tokyo to enjoy hot and humid Thailand. STINTers from all over Asia gathered in Chiang Mai for a few days where we enjoyed Biblical teaching, fellowship and team coaching. As always, our Campus Crusade coaches (this time we were blessed with Don and Teresa), led by the Holy Spirit, provided insight and surfaced issues on our team that were simmering under the surface and cover of "ministry". Though ministering to Japanese students is one of our objectives, loving the Lord and loving each other takes an even higher priority. I'd love to live out 1 John 4:10-11 which says: ***"This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God, but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us."*** God knows I can't love others well on my own, so I thank Him for loving me first and pray He'll help me give His love freely to others.

Once we returned to Tokyo, I began working out the American homestay details. Since last year, Student Impact has been planning on sending Japanese students to America so that they could live with Christians and see what it's like to know Jesus. From February 13-March 5, I'll be going with nine freshmen from Tokyo and one junior from Osaka to Florida, Los Angeles and Las Vegas. I've never undertaken such a logistical nightmare before!! Cam, Kermit, Ayumi, Kelly and I have been preparing since October and the past week has been crunch time. We publicized, worked out transportation and housing, planned out the program, met up with the Japanese students who are going and have been in communication with our American hosts (Orangewood Presbyterian in FL, UCLA and USC in LA and Kermit's dad in Las Vegas). I'm leaving tomorrow morning and there's much to do so I better get going. Until next time!

Love, Jessica Joy

Praying friends!! Your prayers are needed!!

1) As you may have guessed from the belatedness of this update, I've been insanely busy. But the next few weeks in America will be CRAZY!! Please pray for my heart to be humble and right before the Lord amidst busyness. I desperately need your prayers.

2) Pray for our homestay leadership team (Cam, Ayumi, Kermit and I) to love one another well with God's supernatural agape love. (Kel was on the planning team but she's not actually going.) Our love for one another has been and will be tested in stressful situations. Please pray for us!

3) Pray for the students going on homestay (pictured left) to have hearts that are open to Jesus. Pray that the next few weeks will just be the starting point of their journey with Jesus . . . and with us as well.

