

# Jessica Joy's JOURNEYjournal

(DAYTONA BEACH, FL)

JANUARY 30, 2009



Me, Asuka, Koko, Julie - EC friends

## Prayer Points

\*Praise God for His continual encouragement and preparation through EC and NST.

\*Please pray for Sora, one of the new student believers in Japan whom I'm especially close with. She's having a hard time praying, reading her Bible and going to church right now.

\* Three of the homestay students Aya, Saori and Tomomi will be coming from Japan and staying with me and my family on February 18th-25th. Pray for their salvation. Then Yukina and Mika, two relatively new believers will be staying with us from February 26th to March 9th. Pray for them AND my family!

\*Financial support is at 51%

## ✧ Getting Equipped ✧

*I am the LORD, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me, that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is none besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. Isaiah 45:4-6*

Have you ever been thrown into a situation where you just weren't prepared or equipped to do well?

It's frustrating and can even be dangerous depending on the

situation. The theme for this past month has been the importance of being equipped.

This year started off with

Equipper's

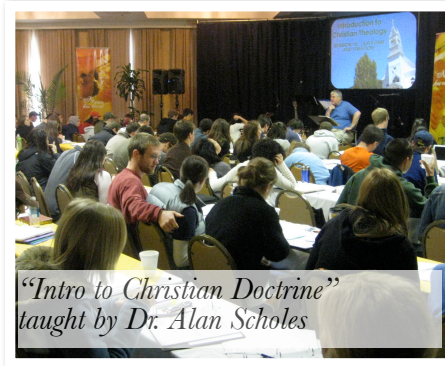
Conference - a conference for Japanese who came to Christ in America and are returning to Japan (see back for more details).

And for the past four weeks I've been in Daytona Beach, FL going through Phase II of New Staff Training (NST) with Campus

Crusade for Christ. Phase II of NST equipped us new staff to help students deal with challenges found on college campuses all over the world in a healthy way.

When faced with pressure of school, relational drama, or depression some students turn to parties, drugs or alcohol to cope.

Some (as we sadly experienced in November with one of our Epic students from Cal Poly SLO) turn to suicide. Others bury themselves in their studies or hide behind achieving success. This past month, during Phase II of NST, we learned how to ask



"Intro to Christian Doctrine" taught by Dr. Alan Scholes

questions that get to the root of issues, create healthy, Biblically based communities, lead people to Christ *continually* (the gospel isn't just for people who don't know Jesus - it's for Christians too) and build a foundation based on solid doctrine. We took a semester's worth of classes in a matter of two weeks (I received credit through Talbot Seminary) - on Intro to Bible Study Methods and Intro to Christian Doctrine. Prior to arriving in FL, we also completed New Testament Survey as a correspondence class. And the other two weeks (the first and last week) were devoted to our own personal relationships with Christ, reflecting on why and how we were called to full-time ministry, practicing sharing our faith in different ways including using technology (i.e. using short films made by Campus Crusade on ipod nanos, using facebook, websites, etc.) and learning how to build a solid team of ministry partners and how to be good stewards of the money and resources entrusted to us by God.

## Equipper's Conference



From December 27th-January 1st, I had the opportunity to participate in Equipper's Conference (EC). When I was in Japan, I met several Japanese who had come to Christ in the States, had attended EC, and returned to Japan. From the receiving end, I saw that EC did a great job in connecting new believers with others in Japan. For many Japanese, the thought of returning to Japan as a Christian is a terrifying and lonely thought. And there's good reason to fear. Sadly, though I tried to reach out to the Japanese new believer returnees, I watched many fall away

from their faith because of familial pressure, lack of Christian fellowship, spiritual warfare and lack of solid teaching. EC's goal and vision is to prepare Japanese to return to their home country and view Japan as their mission field. Koji (pictured left) came to Christ at EC last year. When I first met Koji at our Student Impact meeting, he was excited to tell me he had become a Christian in CA. Just 6 months after receiving Christ, Koji graduated and is now interning with Student Impact (Japan Campus Crusade for Christ). Praise the Lord for who He is, all that He's done and is doing all the time! And thank you for the investment you're making in me and the work that God's doing.

