

Update and praises from last time . . .



*Maoko, a freshman at Waseda, trusted Christ!! At the Thanksgiving party, Maoko told SooJin she wanted to be a Christian. The two met up the following week to talk more and there Maoko prayed to receive Christ in her life!!

*Kermit, Jody and I met up with Yusuke at Hosei University. He expressed feelings of weakness as a new believer in a non-Christian setting. He was grateful to meet up with us and wants to study the Bible regularly with us at Hosei.

*The Christmas campaign went well. JCCC staff and our STINT team shared the gospel with over 100 students and passed out Christmas CDs at several campuses. I also got to speak in 3 university classrooms, PTL!



Passing out CDs at Waseda with "famed" gospel singers – Jeremiah, Kristen, Latrelle and Brittni



Bun gives his testimony at Christmas Beats – an estimated total of 200 people came on 12/21 and 12/22



Our team eating breakfast and opening gifts together on Christmas morning – we had a wonderful Christmas . . . I hope you did too!!

'Tis the Season to be busy . . .

"You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary. Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken your first love." Revelation 2:3-4

Whoa. What a warning from Jesus Himself, but something I've desperately needed to hear. This past month has been crazy busy getting ready for the biggest outreach time of the year – the Christmas season. For about a month and a half, Japanese students are more open and interested in hearing about Christianity because they don't really know why it's so important that Jesus was born. So through Christmas surveys that ask, "Would you want to know the real meaning of Christmas?" or natural conversation, we get to talk with many students about Jesus. It's also the time where we've invited students to Christmas Beats – a gospel concert put on by Jeremiah and his three friends from the States – and passed out thousands of Christmas CDs that have DVD features and the gospel message on the inside flap. Add onto that following up with students from the Thanksgiving party, trying to launch movements on five campuses and going to multiple churches to support various Christmas programs and it's a crazy time of the year. Busyness itself is not the problem. It's not bad to be busy if Jesus remains at the center of one's life, but I can see how Jesus has slipped from the center of my life and "ministry" has taken over. Oh, it's not that I've missed my quiet times or haven't read my Bible, it's that while I read I'm battling thoughts of all the things I have to do rather than soaking it in. Please pray for me in this area. Not just for quantity time, but for quality time with Jesus. Pray that every moment of my life would be led by the Holy Spirit and that I would relentlessly fight to keep Jesus at the center of my life. Thank you! It's so neat to see how God answers specific prayers every month.

A couple more prayer points . . .

- **FUTURE!** This is something I've been thinking and praying about a lot. Next month our team will be going to Thailand for a conference to meet with all the STINTers in Eastern Asia. There we'll have to make some decisions on what will happen for the next year, which of course has some effect on long-term plans as well.
- **Wisdom.** Joe and I are always in need of wisdom in how to best lead and guide our team. Little decisions like how often we should meet as a team or big decisions like which campuses we should focus on are in the process of being evaluated right now. Thank God that he never tires of us asking for wisdom! (*James 1:5*)

