



PEACEFUL DAYS.

平和的の日。



What is peace?  
平和という何？

# JESSICA JOY'S JAPAN JOURNAL

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Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have **peace** with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Romans 5:1

It's that time of year again. The fall leaves exploded with color and are now falling, our Thanksgiving outreaches ended, and Christmas chaos kicks into full gear. Even though Japanese don't consider Christmas an official national holiday, stores are promoting their "Christmas cakes", "Christmas chicken", "Christmas-cardboard-stockings-filled-with-snacks-for-kids" and much more. Of course Christians in Japan (my church

and Campus Crusade for Christ included) are promoting many Christmas-themed parties and events to hopefully inform our native friends that Christmas is about Jesus' birth...not Santa Claus' birth (as some think)!

In all the chaos, it's easy to forget the meaning of "peace on earth". But I see people desperately seeking for peace every day. Whether it's going to a park to go "autumn-leaves-viewing", practicing taichi or going to the onsen (hot springs), there's a need to get a break from the pressure of society and obtain PEACE. There's nothing wrong with the things I mentioned, but God's Word reminds me that true peace comes from knowing God through His Son, Jesus Christ. When I

take my focus off of Jesus, it's easy for me to get caught up in all the things I need to get done TODAY and I start to worry or feel overwhelmed. But knowing that ultimately God has everything in control AND that He offers his wisdom, strength and love freely, I experience true peace. Thank you so much for helping me share this kind of peace and joy with with others here in Japan! In case I don't get around to doing Christmas cards (which I HAD hoped to do for the past couple years, but never did...) I'll say, Merry Christmas!! I pray you also experience the love of God during this season!

*Love,  
Jessica*

### Events to pray for this month:

- 12/11 Student Impact Christmas concert (with our gospel choir FREE and our dance team "Holy Spirit")
- 12/15 ICUHS Christmas party (and I'll be at Waseda with the girls who went on Homestay with me three years ago for a reunion and to see the "illumination" at night)
- 12/16 Student Impact Christmas evangelistic party
- 12/17 Midtown Impact Christmas evangelistic party
- 12/18 STINT Christmas evangelistic party
- 12/19 Shibuya Covenant of Grace (my church's special Christmas service/program)
- 12/24 Christmas Eve Service at Shibuya Covenant of Grace

\*During my winter break from language, I'll be going to the U.S. to spend my very first Christmas with my dad's side of the family in Seattle. I'm looking forward to seeing some of you!



Our Thanksgiving party at ICUHS