

Campus Crusade for Christ

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JESSICA JOY'S  
天川ジェシカの

## Winds of Change

### A NEW SEASON

*And behold, there arose a great storm on the sea, so that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but he was asleep. And they went and woke him, saying, "Save us Lord; we are perishing." And [Jesus] said to them, "Why are you afraid, O you of little faith?" Then he rose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm. Matthew 8:26*

Soon after my last update (about a month ago) Typhoon Roke tore through Japan bringing strong winds, rains, floods, destruction and...the autumn season!! Rain and winds accompany every change in season in Tokyo, but Typhoon Roke was especially strong (and scary!). Thankfully aside from blown down trees and some property damage no one I know was adversely affected - including my homeless friends that I was especially worried about. They found shelter in the subway stations and department stores. I was also thankful for the arrival of my favorite Japan season - autumn. Especially since this year was an unusually difficult summer due to heat and the conservation of electricity (because of the nuclear power plants being shut down). But we survived!

My life is also going through a seasonal change (see note on right)...one that I am beyond excited about; but, like the Japan seasons, winds accompany every change. To take part in my sister's wedding and to prepare for my own, **I'll be leaving Japan in December or January.** The timing of when



*No, we're not doing the tango! ^^ Trying to show off the beautiful ring!*



*After reading from Genesis 2 and his journal, Tien got down on his knee...I said "yes"!*



*His first act as my fiance...washing my feet (as Jesus did)*

Dear Friend,

*There is SO much to update you on...much is going on here in Tokyo. God is good. But first I have to tell you that I'M ENGAGED!! If you've met Tien, you know what I mean when I say I feel so blessed to marry this man!! Even though we come from two very different backgrounds, our love for Jesus and people binds us together. When he proposed he told me he wanted to propose with the bridge beneath our feet because the bridge represented Jesus. Jesus is the bridge between God and people. And He's the bridge between Tien and me. Tien wanted me to remember that Jesus would always be our foundation...he also washed my feet to demonstrate that he wanted to protect, provide, serve and love me as Christ loved the Church...can you see why I feel so blessed?! (full story at [www.jessicatekawa.com](http://www.jessicatekawa.com))*

to leave is a decision Tien, my close friends and mentors have prayed about for about a year. And my co-workers, students and close friends here have known for awhile that I would soon be leaving (actually, before the Great Disaster they thought I would be leaving in August). So while this news may come as a shock to some of you (I'm sorry if that's true for you!) please know this was not a decision that was made quickly or lightly. **Please continue to pray for wisdom for the exact timing of my departure.** I had initially thought waiting until after Christmas would be best for everyone. But I just found out logistically it might be better for my two other roommates (who are also JCCC staff) to move out in December which would mean it would be better for me to return home to the U.S. in December as well...Since this is new news, I'm not sure if I'm emotionally ready to leave that soon; but at the same time, it would be wonderful for my close-knit family to celebrate our "last" Christmas together at home with my sister and I both unmarried!

### GOD'S PROVISION

In my pride, I've worried about how my friends in Japan would do without me...but as always, God's reminding me I'm not God and He's the one in control, not me. Already He's showing His provision through the arrival of new International Campus Staff (ICS - what I am), Christina Eads. Christina and I were in Tokyo as interns together from 2007-2008 and she's the first one to join staff with Japan Campus Crusade for Christ since I came two years ago. We spent her first couple of weeks back in Japan doing everything together so that she could get used to life in Japan again and learn what it means to be ICS. **Please pray for Christina and for more new staff in Japan** (especially native Japanese staff). There does always seem to be "too much to do".

### OTHER FUN UPDATES

When I last wrote I asked for prayer for my seventy-something-year-old new friend Masanori-san, the sentou (bath house) owner in Sendai. We had spent hours talking about

spiritual things and Jesus, and though he was open, he wasn't ready to place his faith in Christ yet. Amazingly, when my staff friend Yukiko went back to Sendai and visited him, they were able to talk again and this time he was ready to pray to receive Jesus! **Please continue to pray for Masanori-san as he begins a new life of following Jesus...**Yukiko and I hope to go visit him again soon.

Back in my city, Mitaka (a subdivision of Tokyo) our staff and students put on a two-day *bunkasai* (culture festival) to help support Tohoku. We had performances, a cafe, massages and hair cutting...all proceeds went to support Tohoku. Amazingly, even though we were open about being a Christian organization, we were touched to see the general Mitaka community really rally around to support us. Our non-Christian students also worked hard and seemed to really enjoy their time. **Please especially pray for students Mai and Take's salvation.** Thank you! And **THANK YOU for journeying with me every step of the way!!**



Just a few of the staff and students who put on our *bunkasai*. Our event was called "irona inori"...it's a play on words in Japanese words to mean different/colorful prayers