

Jessica Joy's JOURNEY journal

SEPTEMBER 27, 2008

Background picture of SF Bay

Praise!

* *It's official!! I've been assigned to be long-term staff in Japan. Before I leave though, I need to complete three phases of staff training and raise 100% of financial support. (This will take about a year).*

* *Safely traveled from OH to NC to FL for my Tokyo teammate's wedding and for the first phase of New Staff Training (NST). NST part 1 was an intense week, but I left feeling equipped and re-focused.*

Prayer points

* *Jesus would be my first love and FOCUS, especially during this support raising time.*

* *Wisdom in how I spend my time. There are many ministry opportunities and I want to do everything! But my job now is to build a ministry team to send me back to Japan.*

✧ Where is your faith? ✧

And a windstorm came down on the lake, and they were filling with water and were in danger. And they went and woke him, saying, "Master, Master, we are perishing!" And he awoke and rebuked the wind and the raging waves, and they ceased and there was a calm. He said to them, "Where is your faith?" Luke 8:23-25

Experiencing just a *little* bit of Hanna and Ike in North Carolina and Florida, gives me a picture of what the disciples may have gone through while in their boat with Jesus. Storms come with barely any warning. It could be sunny one minute, and the next minute, the high winds kick in, the dark clouds roll in and the earth seems to flood. It's scary.

In the same way, life could be going well one minute and the next the floor could fall out from under you. There can be a sudden illness, death, break-up, the stock-market crashes. . .

As I'm building a team of ministry partners right now so that I can go back to Japan long-term, I'm getting to talk and interact with many of you. I love it! And I'm amazed and inspired by your faith in Jesus Christ. Lately I've found myself putting my faith in myself and my own abilities, resources and relationships. I need to be continually reminded that to put my faith in anything or anyone, including myself, is foolish. Only Jesus is worthy of our faith! Thank you for helping me to remember that.

Press on, Jessica



SooJin's wedding in NC and 1st year Tokyo reunion



Phase I of New Staff Training completed in FL



Welcome to the U.S. Yurika! (A Japan reunion in CA)



Good friends surprise me for my 24th birthday (which was on 9/11)