

My face is a combination of surprise and excitement. Groups of international students from places like Japan, India, and Saudi Arabia being gathered at the IUPUI campus center for the “Bridges English club” group outing. We divide up and pile into cars with our new friends. After passing miles of corn fields, we arrive at the apple orchard.

I can tell from their slow movements, inquisitive looks, and simple questions that they are taking in every sensation of the experience. Many of the students express their gratitude for bringing them, and their fascination with a place of beautiful simplicity. One of my Japanese friends comments how the quietness is a welcome break from the noise of life in Tokyo. It seems the American fascination with everything fall - apples, pumpkins, and all the things we make with them - is easily shared with others. It was a fun time of sharing a cultural experience!

Every Friday, Bridges hosts an hour of English club (anything from interviewing skills to American football) and then an hour of Bible study. Because of our inability to get a consistent location and time on campus, our numbers have fluctuated greatly. Would you pray that despite the confusion, students would come and engage with us about the Bible?

Bridges International is a ministry of Cru that reaches out to international students studying in the States for a short period. Some of these students come from countries closed to the gospel and missionary efforts. Our desire is to build bridges of friendship with these students, employing the ministry of hospitality. In the process, we hope and pray they consider looking into the claims of Jesus, and the God of the Bible. Because international students are in new places and settings, it's a time when they are more open to discussing different worldviews and spiritual beliefs. Would you pray with us in this ministry? Although Jenny and I can only give a few hours per week to Bridges, we are excited to see what God does among internationals at IUPUI!

Laboring with you for the gospel.



The whole group on the apple picking outing



Jenny with Nimmy & Siftin



Matt with Hiroki, Indy, and Yoshi (L-to-R)

How to pray for ministry and us:

- for Hiroki & Yoshi to understand the gospel
- Jenny is meeting with Nimmy & Siftin to share more with them
- we continue to grow in patience with each other
- that we depend upon the Holy Spirit's power, not our own
- establish rhythms of rest & sabbath

Giving every student the opportunity to hear the good news of Jesus Christ.