

May 22, 2017

Dear Friend,

We are thankful for God's amazing work through those we send to help bring the gospel to the waiting peoples of the world. Your partnership enables us to keep sending more of them!

Recently we had some very encouraging news from Tokyo and the interns (Stinters) we have sent. **We are praying and asking God to change Japan's spiritual climate and bring a breakthrough as believers persevere in God's plan.** Here's some of their stories:

Sachi: *With a joyous smile, twinkling eyes, and rather loud laughter, Sachi was astonishing to the Stinters. During the national conference of staff and students in Japan, she shared about the Cru movement in the city of Kobe in the space of 5 years. Sachi shared that she comes from a family with divorced parents, but she has a strong Christian background through her church. On her campus, Sachi boldly reaches out to freshmen with the gospel and leads Bible study. She is so focused on the Lord and serves Him with all she has. Her joy, passion and loving spirit glorify God as a light for Jesus in Japan. She is deciding between working in a church or joining Japan Cru staff.*

Chito: *Back in Tokyo last summer two missionaries with Cru approached Chito, a Waseda University student, who eagerly listened to the gospel and accepted Jesus into his life. On Easter, Chito took another step in faith to get baptized. Chito is studying the Bible and attending church, and his life is changing because of the Holy Spirit. "Before, I used to think about money a lot, but now, I feel like I can be generous," Chito says. He gives generously of his time and helps share the gospel, plans and leads events, and doesn't shy away from proclaiming that he is a Christian.*

Akane: *As Christian student involvement increases in the ministry, the team prays that students grow closer, and love each other as Christ loves. Akane helped plan the Easter outreach with Chito. It was her first time to lead an event, but she took a further step and proclaimed the gospel and shared her testimony with the 40 students there!*



Akane with Stinter Adriana



The 12 Stinters in Tokyo this year

Stinters: *Of this 12 person Stint team in Tokyo, 5 will return to Japan to re-STINT from the fall, 5 will apply to return as full time staff to Tokyo, one will start seminary, and one will pursue teaching.*

Rochelle and I are excited to send so many back to Japan!
Praise God!

We will attend the U.S. Staff Conference in Fort Collins, CO, July 16 – 24. This is a significant time for all US staff to come together to meet with the Lord, to hear what He has done through our staff around the world, and renew our vision for where He is leading us as a movement. It is always an encouraging time for us!

All staff members are responsible to cover our own expenses for attending this event. The staff

conference is held only once every two years. These costs are in addition to our ongoing ministry expenses. Please pray with us that the Lord would supply the additional funds we need.

We are grateful for your partnership and all that you do in partnering with us. Would you prayerfully consider helping with a special gift of \$100, \$200 or some other amount? Any gifts up to \$3000 will be matched, so your gift will count double! If you are able to help, please use online services at give.cru.org/0257817 to make your gift.

Thank you so much!

Steve, Rochelle, and Josh

Steve's Health Concerns

Steve noticed some trouble with his vision which led him to the eye doctor and then to a retinal specialist. When his eyes checked out fine, he had an MRI done of his brain and the doctors discovered a pituitary adenoma. This tumor on the pituitary gland is normally non-cancerous, but it is about the size of a walnut, and it is putting pressure on his optical nerve. He expects to have neuro-surgery in late June or July and endocrine therapy depending on how the pituitary is affected. Please pray for healing and for wisdom for the doctors involved in his care. Please pray too that the Lord would provide the additional funds we need to cover these medical expenses, about \$7000. Thank you for your prayers and concern!