

# KOBE RECAP



## めぐみ, *A Blessing*

On our first day on campus, we approached Megumi and Hina during their free period and had casual conversations. They said they were busy and couldn't make it out to any of our events, but we made plans to meet them the following Thursday and get brunch! During this hangout, we shared our testimonies and the Gospel, and we also got them connected with some local missionaries. They weren't ready to believe yet, but one of them, Megumi, agreed to come out to our last event the next week.

At that event, she watched a skit about the Gospel and shared that she really resonated with the character's struggles with self-worth and self-image, and was touched by how Jesus protected her. After a Gospel presentation message, Megumi prayed the prayer to receive Christ and

invited Jesus into her life. A local Japanese church member guided her in learning more about what happens after accepting Christ and I was amazed to know that her life was actually changed forever now.



Komari (right) sharing the Gospel with Megumi (left)

There were many challenges related to the social aspect of meeting new people and pursuing friendships, but through this friend, I learned the importance and preciousness of even just one soul coming back to Christ and got to experience the joy of watching a wayward sister come back home. Megumi (めぐみ) means blessing in Japanese, and she truly was a blessing to me as well.

California Friends Party, our last event! Our mission team, Kobe CCC, and local church members were all present to greet non-believers

## THANK YOU

Thank you so much for supporting me and praying for me while I was on missions, I am confident that it had an impact on our ministry on the mission field :)

I'd love to meet up with you, grab coffee, and catch up so please hit me up! (I'm being real pls)

## How was missions?

Three weeks of missions was simultaneously so long for a short-term mission trip but also so short to say that it was for the sole purpose of relational evangelism. During these three weeks of approaching students and forming relationships with them, I quickly realized that **it was impossible for me to see which students would respond well to the Gospel or which friendships would continue to bloom** so that I could naturally share the Gospel and how it has changed my life.



Julia (my evangelism partner), Seika, and me

I would have great spiritual conversations and share the Gospel and my testimony with them just to have them tell me that they were no longer interested in coming out to any of our events or even meeting up with me for lunch on campus. On the other hand, I also had students who initially didn't really want to talk to me or seemed hesitant to get to know me, but over several opportunities, got to hear the Gospel multiple times and came to receive Christ and get connected with the local ministry.

**These interactions really taught me to rely on the Holy Spirit and to not place my expectations in the signs that I could see, but to place my expectations in the fact that I could rely on God to be moving through me whether it looked fruitful or not.**



Hyunjin (local missionary), Koko, and me

I also realized that this type of evangelism—forming relationships, becoming personal, and then sharing the God that is so personal to me—was something I could bring back to my life in the states and honestly would be so much easier to do without the language barrier anyways. Every time I reflected how doing ministry on the mission field was, I was reminded and convicted of my team at work back in the States that didn't know Christ. I gained a new understanding of what it meant to be called into the workforce and consider my work my primary mission field, because **this was the type of ministry that I was called to with my coworkers.**

In a way, I felt like evangelism on the mission field was so much easier than evangelism back at home because I had a team keeping me accountable for reading the Bible, worshiping, and continuing to rely on God, and my supporters praying over me. I was afraid of coming back because I would have additional responsibilities of work and without the consistent community to continually keep me accountable.

However, this is the challenge that I face, and given this conviction, I'm also excited to see how God will continue to move in me and through me back in normal life as well :)

*"And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD"*

EZEKIEL 37:13-14



Our group from the night Megumi (front right) accepted Christ!