

the
ESAKIS IN OSAKA

Next Up:
CITY TO CITY JAPAN, Tokyo
MARCH 1-13



Fifteen church planting candidates and many observers have been accepted to the CTCJ intensive training!

Above, Koji is interviewing a candidate, with a carefully designed questionnaire to discern personal, relational, and ministry skills of the applicants. These

questions were made available in Japanese and English, depending on the candidate who applied.

Most of Koji's work for this intensive has been translating or interviewing via computer but in March that will change. He will translate some of the training modules for the English-speaking teachers, and also be working with the team to find potential coaches for the church planters.

Then we fly to Bangkok in March to a coaching seminar to make sure Koji is able to present all the materials well. Please pray for health protection in all the travels.

Praise God that the women have organized the first outreach in women's ministry for February 22. There are issues to solve including how to do two languages smoothly, among a multi-cultural group of women. Please pray that all will run well.



Two international couples were part of our Pre-Marital Coaching. The first couple (below) was married last October. The second couple will marry in March, the weekend after the March CTC seminar. Koji will conduct the Japanese portion. Praise God for these couples, and pray for them.



Home Bible Study

For three years we have been asking for prayer for our Bible Study of eight, meeting monthly in our apartment. Our group is made up of people in their 50's, 60's and 70's; a professor emeritus, small business CEO, school administrator, medical doctor and those of us in full-time ministry. We had not gotten a clear idea of where people stood in their faith and whether our little community was effective. We were grateful for one member's text message to the group:

This past year was again a hard year, however because of all of you I have some kind of sense that I have already been saved. That sense has penetrated a little bit into my heart. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.