

Land of the Risen Son

イエス・キリストは日本を愛する

(Jesus loves Japan)

Where Are They Now?



Helen

First met: 2011

Helen was one of the first students in our Bible ESL class in December 2011. Though she'd said "yes" to Jesus before, she'd not been baptized and hadn't been following Him in her life. After six months of Bible ESL and starting to attend church again, she decided to be baptized.

This is a big deal in Japan because people often say "yes" to Jesus to be polite. Turning words into deeds, through baptism, is seen as a heartfelt decision to follow Christ.

More than seven years later, Helen is married and has three kids. She still attends church regularly and invites dozens of her friends and family to our outreach events so they can hear the good news about Jesus too!



Daniel

First met: 2011

Daniel, Peter's best friend in Japan, was a Christian when we met him. Peter and he clicked immediately, and the two were unstoppable in their enthusiasm and bountiful ideas for outreach.

During our year between organizations, when we weren't allowed to do "official" ministry, Peter disciplined Daniel in implementing his own ideas, and leading outreach events and Bible studies. Daniel felt God calling him to ministry, and entered Bible college.

A few years ago, Daniel felt God was leading him to become an Anglican priest. This meant that he had to move away from Okinawa to Kumamoto, so that he could connect with the Anglican church there. Once they got to know him, they might invite him to enter their seminary. Three years later, they've done exactly that, and he is now studying at seminary for the next three years.



Grant

First met: 2012

Grant was first invited to our Bible ESL class by Daniel. He was spiritually hungry, and eventually decided to become a Christian. Peter had the privilege of helping to baptize him.

A few years later, his faith journey would become rocky. His dad got very sick. Grant prayed that he would be healed and become a Christian before he died, but to our knowledge, this never happened. This led to a crisis of faith. Between his spiritual struggles and his work schedule, Grant stopped coming to church. So, Peter and Daniel brought "church" to him, meeting weekly for Bible study in his bar. Seven years later, Grant is married and has two toddler children.

He seems to have put his spirituality on hold for the time being, but we hope he might be receptive to starting Bible study again in the future.

"YOU ARE LIKE MY OLDER SISTER. I WILL BE WAITING FOR YOUR RETURN; I WANT ANOTHER HUG WHEN YOU COME BACK!"

- Vanessa, friend we originally met at the grocery store



Neil

First met: 2012

Neil was another of our early Bible ESL students. He also participated in a sermon discussion group at our home and came out to a variety of outreach events. He, too, would eventually decide to follow Jesus and be baptized. He became very active in the church, and in leading kids' Sunday

school in particular. He loves children.

A few years ago, he moved back to Tokyo to take care of his sick father. They had formerly been estranged, but Neil felt Jesus pulling him towards forgiveness and reconciliation. While there, Neil introduced two of his friends to Jesus, and they were baptized too.

Following his father's death, Neil has returned to Okinawa and is studying to be a teacher. Between schooling and jobs to make ends meet, he works 16 hour days, seven days a week, so we don't see him much, but he remains enthusiastic about Jesus and coming to church when he can. He's hoping to soon find a Christian wife.

Though we are intensely homesick for Okinawa, we've now received advice from three separate members of our medical team (covering the psychological trauma, my concussion, and Peter's adrenal issues) that we should extend our time in Canada to ensure that we're healthy when returning to Okinawa. Our new plan is to stay until the end of November.

"PLEASE TAKE EXTRA TIME TO HEAL. THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING AT THE MOMENT."

- Pastor Higa, Seaside Chapel

Crescent Wrapped Baked Apple Brie

Prep & cook time: 25 minutes

Yield: 1 loaf

Ingredients

1 can (8 ounce) Pillsbury refrigerated crescent rolls

1 round (8 ounce) Brie cheese

1/2 apple, sliced thinly

1/4 cup brown sugar

1 egg beaten

Crackers or apple slices for serving

Directions

1. *Preheat the oven to 350°F.*
2. *Unroll dough; separate crosswise into 2 sections. Press each section into 6-inch square, firmly pressing perforations to seal. (Scrape some of the white outer skin off the Brie, if desired.) Place the Brie on centre of first dough square. Arrange apple slices on top, and sprinkle the brown sugar on top of the apples.*
3. *Pull up the sides of the bottom dough square, then place the remaining dough square on top of the Brie, apples and brown sugar. Press dough evenly around cheese, pressing to seal completely. Brush beaten egg all over the dough. Place on cookie sheet.*
4. *Bake for 20-25 minutes or until golden brown. Remove from the oven and let it cool for 10 minutes. (If you serve it piping hot, all of the cheese with escape.) Serve the Brie with crackers or apple slices.*



Contact Information

Thank You!

Thank you for your interest in our work. We send out newsletters every two months. If at any point you decide that you don't want to receive them anymore, just write or email us.

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