

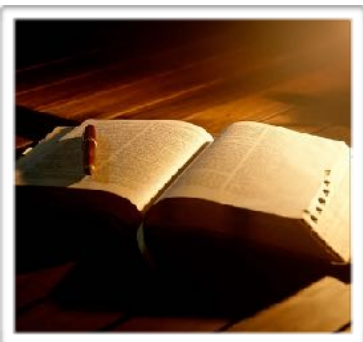
# Land of the Risen Son

## イエス・キリストは日本を愛する

(Jesus loves Japan)

### This Month...

In August, most of our normal activities have stopped because the kids are on holiday. Because summer break is only one month in Japan, the number of people who go away during that time is greatly increased, and most programs in the church halt. So we will be using August to get more specialized training as ESL teachers (taking courses aimed at teaching Young Learners and Business English), and prepare lessons and materials for the various classes that will be starting again in the fall.



### English Worship

Over the past four years we've been holding English church services twice a month. At the start when we created flyers to advertise our services, we learnt a few interesting things about the Japanese culture. If you were to invite a friend out to church in Canadian culture, you wouldn't say "If you're interested, please come out to worship at church."

Talking about "worshipping" is very personal in our native culture, and inviting someone to worship

would sound a little too threatening and in-your-face. Instead you might refer to the event as a "church service". However, in Japanese, inviting someone to a "church service" sounds more threatening. It sounds to them like they will be expected to serve in some way. So in Japan, we invite people to "worship at church", which is less stress-inducing.

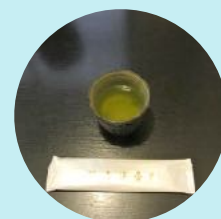
When we started, only one or two people would show up, but about a third of the time no one would come. Eventually we connected with more people, and started seeing regular attendees develop. Over the years, we've had Koreans, Singaporeans, Japanese, and Okinawans come out regularly. Many of the foreigners speak English better than they speak Japanese. For them, English Worship is the only source of spiritual input in their lives. Most of the Japanese and Okinawans have lived abroad, whether in Canada or the US, and want to keep up their English. One Okinawan mother and daughter come out because the daughter is involved in soccer on Sunday mornings, so our evening services work better with their schedule.

These days, we usually have 3-7 attendees on any given Sunday. We have been seeing them grow spiritually, and experience a deepening delight at the things they are learning from the Bible. Half of the attendees are not Christian, and most

**"WE ALWAYS LEARN SO MUCH FROM OUR DISCUSSIONS OF THE BIBLE. THAT'S WHY WE LOVE COMING TO ENGLISH WORSHIP!"**

- Kristy Kim

### Interesting Facts



#### Manners at mealtime

When eating at restaurants, Japanese people start by washing their fingers with moist towelettes.



#### "Itadakimasu" and "Gochisousama"

Before the meal starts, the Japanese bow slightly with their hands together, and say いただきます (ee-tah-dah-kee-mass) as an expression of gratitude. After they've finished, they say ごちそうさまでした (go-chee-so-sah-ma-deh-she-tah) which, loosely translated, means "thank you, that was delicious, what a feast!"



#### Chopsticks

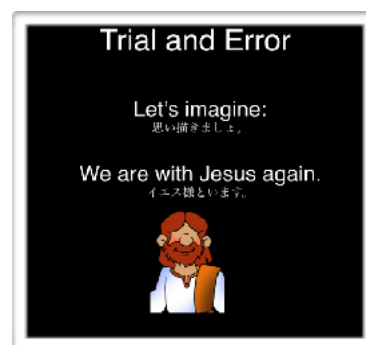
When eating, Japanese people use the narrow end of the chopsticks to bring food to their mouths. When serving themselves, they reverse their chopsticks and use the thick end to move food from communal serving dishes to their plates.

of the rest have had little exposure to the things of Jesus and the Bible. So, right now we are laying the foundation for their future knowledge and understanding.

One family, the Kims, is originally from Korea though they've been living in Japan for the past ten years. The mum (Kristy) is Christian, but her daughter (Kelly), son (Kent), and husband (who normally lives in Tokyo) are not. Kelly and Kent take violin lessons from Peter. The Kims have been coming to English Worship for the past 3 years. Recently Kent has developed a beautiful singing voice, and now craves Bible stories. He reads one every night before going to sleep.

Kelly often comes to English Worship with her mother and brother. She's just started high school and wants to become a doctor. Lately she's been struggling with the idea that if she gives her life to God, He might ask her to give up her dreams of becoming a doctor, or He might ask her to go to someplace she doesn't want to go. Her solution, for a while, was to block Him out completely and stop coming to church. After all, if she can't hear God asking her to do something she doesn't want to do, she's not really disobeying, right?

Now Kelly has started coming to church again. She says she's really missed hearing about God, and spending time with us. We hope that one day she will have the joy of discovering that if God asks something of us, it always means He has something better planned.



## This Month's Recipe

# Hawaiian Cheesecake Bars

*Baked cheesecakes are usually pretty dense, but this one is nice and light. It was a big hit at our July cooking club!*

## Ingredients

### Crust:

1 cup flour  
1/2 cup sugar  
1/2 cup butter

### Pineapple Filling Layer:

8 ounces cream cheese  
2 tablespoons sugar  
2 tablespoons milk  
1 egg  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
8 ounces crushed pineapple, drained

### Topping:

1 cup flaked coconut  
1 tablespoon butter, melted  
Dark chocolate chips (optional)

Preparation & Cooking Time: 45 minutes

Yield: 16-20 servings

## Directions

1. Combine crust ingredients. Pat mixture into ungreased 8x8" pan. Bake in 350°F oven for 15-20 minutes. Cool slightly.
2. Mix together cream cheese, sugar, milk and eggs. Fold in vanilla, and drained pineapple. Spread over baked crust.
3. Combine coconut and melted butter, and sprinkle over pineapple filling layer. Bake at 350°F for 15-20 minutes.
4. Scatter optional chocolate chips over top of finished cheesecake bars. Let cool.



## 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.

### Correspondence can be sent to:



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