



Dear Pastors, Friends, and Prayer Partners,

July 2026

“Do you have to set up the things you worship?”

A young man asked me this question as we sat courtside at a weeknight badminton meetup waiting for our turn. There was no hint of jest. Images of the golden idols often found in Japanese temples flashed through my mind. He was not thinking about setting up chairs or testing microphones. He was asking whether we had to set up idols before each service.

I explained that Christians worship a God we cannot see. We worship the Creator rather than created things.

He was warm and curious. He was not ready for an in-depth conversation, but he had opened the door. As we continued talking, I remembered that this was not a stranger I had just met. We had been seeing each other regularly for a while now.

This interaction reminded me that many people here (including college grads in their 20s!) still understand little about the most basic Christian beliefs and practices. It was also a reminder that relationships matter. This conversation did not happen because I invited him to a formal religious event. It happened through repeatedly showing up and making space for personal connection.

THANK YOU for praying with us and partnering with us so we can have conversations like this!

This month, we **re-started our English outreach**. We had 5 people at this past event including me and a Christian friend and three unbelievers. We are specifically praying that we can connect with young guys through this outreach. Please pray with us.

Summer break is starting here in Japan and we have several opportunities for extra family outreach. In addition to our monthly Kids Club, we will host a LEGO play days on August 6 and 20 at a local community center. On August 11, we will hold a family board game and English book read aloud event. When our pastor came last month he brought several Christian children's books, so we are excited to use them for this outreach.

We are promoting these events broadly, but we especially hope they will help us deepen relationships with families who have already attended Kids Club. Our goal is not merely to run successful events. We want to build bridges that will connect families to the church and give us opportunities to share the Gospel clearly!

Yours for Japan,
The Miyashita Family

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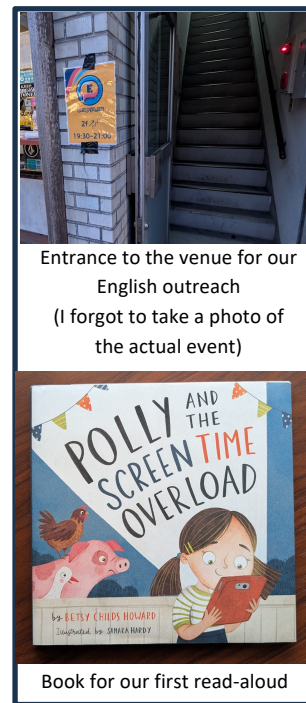
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Entrance to the venue for our English outreach
(I forgot to take a photo of the actual event)

Book for our first read-aloud