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# David Robison:

## 1000 mi. to go.

BACK FROM JAPAN, READJUSTED TO PACIFIC STANDARD TIME, READY TO START RAISING SUPPORT!

*Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us. -Hebrews 12:1*

## 2007: It Starts

Getting appointed with SEND as a missionary to Japan. Leading a mission trip to Romania. Visiting Japan for three weeks. Leading high school Bible study. Leading college Bible study. Raising Support. Working at the Jesus Film Project. 2007 was pretty crazy.

As I think back, the whole year seems to have flown by in a chaotic blur of constant activity. Despite that, I have no regrets; I've never been involved in so much ministry, and it was amazing to see the things that God did in so many different areas. Rarely did I find myself with enough time to stop and see where it all was leading, but sitting here, at the start of a new year, I can't help but think that 2007 was only the beginning.

The whole year seems like it was a trial; not in the sense of hardship, but in the sense of an evaluation. God thrust me into many challenges, and demanded that I rely on Him to see each of them through.

Over and over and over again I would catch a glimpse of His incredible faithfulness, and then be plunged right into the next task.

In December God allowed me to visit Japan for three weeks both spending some time with my brother Jon, and participating in a short term missions trip. It was an encouraging and enlightening time, which brought my direction and goal of becoming a missionary in Japan clearly back into focus. That's where God is leading me. I'm excited to see him using me now, and I'm excited to be used in the future as well.

If 2007 was God giving me a picture of what full time ministry is like, then I hope and pray that 2008 is the year that provides the means for me to go to Japan full time. By God's grace I hope to focus on raising support this year, and I can't wait to see God demonstrate His faithfulness in that area, as He did in so many other areas last year.



4%

## Promised Monthly Support

0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%



## Love Japan 2007

What would Christmas be like without Christ? Often in the US we struggle to keep Christ in focus during the Christmas season, a task that seems to get more difficult each year in an increasingly secular and tolerant society. However Japan is different. Unlike the US, Japanese society has never been based upon, or even significantly influenced by a Christian worldview.

Christmas is a fairly new holiday in Japan, one that it has only begun to be celebrated recently. It is recognized as a western holiday, one that has to do with gift giving, winter festivities and Santa Claus. Department stores seem to be celebrating it the most, setting up giant Christmas trees and running large ad campaigns to encourage holiday shopping.

Oddly enough among Japanese young people it is most often viewed as something of a romantic holiday, which they celebrate by checking into a fancy hotel for the night with their boyfriend or girlfriend. For those who are single it is a lonely time of the year.

Christmas is gaining more and more popularity, and each year more people celebrate it in their own misguided way. The vast majority of the population have little to no idea that Christmas is actually the celebration of the birth of Christ, who came to bring salvation to the world. This presents a unique opportunity to reach out to Japanese people. There is a curiosity which causes people to wonder what this holiday is really all about.

For the past four years Campus Crusade for Christ has coordinated a large scale Christmas outreach program, partnering with teams from around the world, and churches within Japan to distribute a specially created a Multimedia Christmas CD, containing Christmas songs, art work and video clips from the Jesus Film presenting the true story of Christmas' origins as told in the Gospel of Luke.

For the fourth year in a row God allowed me to go to Japan and participate in this outreach. We took a team of twelve people to work with a Church in Tachi-

kawa, Tokyo.

Each day we would head out to one of Japan's bustling train stations, where millions of people flow through each day, to hand out as many of the CDs as we could. Our two pronged strategy was let Christ's love show through in our countenance, and to wear funny looking Santa hats. Both seemed to prove highly effective, as our team was able to hand out approximately 16,000 CDs over a ten day period.

The results of such a large scale outreach are always difficult to track. At least two people showed up at the Church in Tachikawa after receiving the CDs. Thousands more were given a chance to see what Christmas is all about. Perhaps a few will discover that this odd western holiday they recently began to celebrate is really the celebration of the most joyous event in human history, the birth of the Son of God, who came to bring them forgiveness and hope, and life.

## Prayer Requests



- God's direction this coming year, especially in regards to an opportunity to lead a short term trip to Japan this Summer
- That I would be able to make good contacts with Churches in the area, and get appointments to speak.
- That God would provide 66% of my monthly support during 2008, so that I can be on track for a Summer 2009 departure.
- The 16,000 people that received a gospel CD this Christmas, that they would come to church and come to Christ.

If you are interested in supporting me, please contact me and I will send you a Support Promise card.

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As contributions are tax-deductible, they are sought with the understanding that SEND International has complete discretion and control over the use of all donated funds. Each contribution for an approved program will be used as restricted with the understanding that funds received in excess of the amount required will be used where needed most.