

TOMITA



Shigemi Tomita

JAPAN

LANGUAGES

Japanese
English

MINISTRY PRIORITY

Education

BIRTHDAY

4/14



LOCATION

Japan



ABOUT

Through a unique partnership between International Ministries and Kanto Gakuin University, Shigemi was appointed to serve as an associate missionary. Having completed her PhD in Christian studies and being ordained in Canada, Shigemi is now serving in her home country of Japan, where she teaches Bible and related

subjects for university students. She also holds monthly Bible classes for parents. In addition, Shigemi speaks at chapel services as a chaplain, serves as an advisor for the university's Christian clubs, and represents IM on Kanto Gakuin's Board of Directors and Board of Councilors.



Inside the chapel at Kanto Gakuin University



MINISTRY STORY

For many freshmen of Kanto Gakuin University, my classes are the first time they have encountered the Bible. Their challenges and attitudes are typical of many Japanese people: uninterested in Christianity or religion itself; sometimes even afraid and alarmed to get involved in religious studies, or finding no sense in believing in something invisible. Many are indifferent, others unwilling, and still others hostile.

At the end of the semester, while some students are still disconnected from or resentful of Christianity, many students seem to feel that it does teach good things and is helpful for them and the betterment of the world.

Here are some of their comments:

"First afraid of Christianity, I came to find Christian values important and admirable."

"I learned new ideas that were not found within myself or Japanese society."

"I love the Golden Rule."

"For Christianity, happiness means something that encompasses all people, not just an individual."

"Some stories in the Bible were fun to read."

"Equity is not just avoiding doing an evil—acts of kindness and thoughtfulness are necessary."

"My life has changed a bit by learning Christianity, and I now want it to change further."

"The Bible solved some of my questions I have had, such as the meaning of existence of human beings."

A few students would actually say that they came to believe in the existence of God!

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray for loving relationships between God and students of Kanto Gakuin University.

Pray for participation and love for God among parents who come to Bible classes.

Pray for academic and spiritual development of Kanto Gakuin University and its schools.

Pray for personal growth of myself as a person, Christian, teacher, and scholar.

SCRIPTURE

"Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the duty of all mankind."

Ecclesiastes 12:13b (NIV)

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STAY UPDATED: www.internationalministries.org