

December 2017

ESAKIS IN OSAKA



Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.
Psalm 136:1



Thanksgiving Day—American Thanksgiving and Japanese Thanksgiving—fell on the same day this year. We invited our neighbors from our apartment building for cheese, bread, fruit and wine—with a cranberry sauce and sweet potato jam side. We explained the meaning of Thanksgiving for Americans and compared it to the original 5-grain harvest of Japanese thanksgiving dating back to the 6th century (Now the day's meaning has become more like American Labor Day). We went around the group and asked people to reflect on the past year. One couple asked if we ever had arguments as a married couple? Answer: Yes. Others chimed in about their lives. The couple with children said they have no grandparents in this city, except for us. We want to continue to build relationships here in downtown Osaka. Please pray for this. Without your financial gifts, we would not be able to live in one of the largest cities in Japan.

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In Our Savior's Grip, *Marcia and Koji Esaki.*