

ESAKIS IN OSAKA

Thirty minutes drive from our small apartment and zoom meetings is our comfort place of Minoh. Throughout the pandemic, about three times a month, we have tried to walk along the Minoh River, past historic teahouses and up to a waterfall.



2021 Training Pastors to be Coaches

STEP 1 Select Materials and Trainers

Available materials are only English
Trainer is Aussie / Koji assistant

STEP 2 Find pastors, with five plus years experience, and orient them on the Gospel Coach concept.

(February to March 2021)

STEP 3 Plan, Translate, Contextualize

Marcia helps with planning. A hired translator takes the English into Japanese. Koji translates and contextualizes alongside the trainer. Koji was trained on this material in 2017-2018 by CTC.

STEP 4 Train, Practice, Reflect

(June to December 2021)
Certify coaches in 2022

What's the difference between a Gospel Coach and a Mentor?

“As a mentor, I impart what God-given gift I have. As a coach I draw out what God has put into the coachee.”*

The distinction is not always clear in a Japanese setting.

Koji did a mock coaching session with a volunteer, albeit dealing with a real problem, during the last orientation session. One pastor remarked, “I would have told the pastor what to do.”



Another said, “I was *hagayui* (teeth grinding) “irritated” at the time it took to draw out the coachee.” The volunteer coachee, by contrast, said that coaching made his “cloudy thinking clear” and he was grateful for the process.

Praise that 6 pastors joined the coaching orientation sessions.

Pray that all or most of them will join the training in June.

*Dale Stoll, Radical Restoration Ministries



Our Bible study resumed this year, online, at the request of Koji's friend of many years. He is not a believer but missed the fellowship. **Please pray** for open hearts.

Prayer

As part of City to City Japan, Koji leads a 12-week prayer cohort with 5 church planters.

Koji continues the monthly coaching of 6 church planters, who attended last fall's training.