



one m.o.re

~ministry of reconciliation~

It's entrusted to you

equipperconference'07

what is ec

Theme

one m.o.re
~ministry of reconciliation~
It's entrusted to you

"All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation." 2 Corinthians 5:18 (NIV)

What images conjure up in your mind when you hear the word, "reconciliation?" Is it something personal like reconciling with friends, or something beyond our physical control like reconciliation between nations? According to the Bible, reconciliation is actually something that pertains to all of us.

Two thousand years ago, God sent Jesus Christ to this Earth in order to restore His relationship with us. And with the power of the cross, God reconciled with us. Accepting Jesus Christ as our Savior, and being reconciled with God, we have been entrusted with m.o.re: ministry of reconciliation by God.

Let us seek m.o.re entrusted to you through ec 07!

purpose

equipper conference (ec) is a five night conference which "equips" (Ephesians 4:12) Japanese Christians who met Jesus overseas for their eventual return to their home country as ambassadors of Christ.

"It was He who gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God."

Ephesians 4:11-13

Currently many Japanese are living abroad for various reasons. These include ongoing studies, businesses, and international marriages. The Gospel touches them and many of them become believers, who are to return to Japan some day. There are also those who became Christians in Japan but are now growing spiritually overseas. God can work through them in a great way when they go back to Japan to witness to their families and friends and to spread the Gospel message as they become connected to local churches.

Yet in reality, many of these returnees suffer what is often called "reverse-culture shock" beyond the level they had expected, which affects even their walk with Jesus. As a result, and regrettably, many of them depart from churches within a few years of returning home. God has started equipper conference by gathering several missions organizations in order to reverse this sad trend in returnee Christians' life (please see history). The purpose of equipper conference is to prepare Japanese Christians abroad (mainly in North America) by cultural and discipleship trainings before their return, so that with God's encouragement they will be equipped as the disciples of Christ to share His love and forgiveness in Japan.

who should come?

equipper conference (ec) 07 serves people such as,

1) Japanese Christians who plan to go back home;

- 2) Japanese Christians in North America who serve the Lord;
- 3) Non-Japanese Christians (English speakers) who are serving such Japanese Christians;
- 4) Christians in Japan who want to receive and help returnee Christians; and
- 5) those who are interested in ministry to Japanese people.

(please see the Program for the details).

date and place

equipper conference 2007 (ec 07)

from december 27, 2007 (thu) to january 1, 2008 (tue)
(please see tentative schedule for the detailed info.)

place

Calvary Chapel Conference Center: <http://www.calvarychapel.com/mhs/>
39405 Murrieta Hot Springs Rd., Murrieta, CA 92563, USA

ec 07 will be held at the conference facility owned by Calvary Chapel in Murrieta, CA, outside Los Angeles. It enjoys mild temperature even in December and it has very open atmosphere. Hot spas and swim pool (both outside) are available during ec 07.

history

In 1997, under the vision that Japanese Christians would be encouraged and equipped for the work of the Lord's before their return to Japan, several missions organizations worked together to host the first equipper conference in Seattle, WA.

themes and main speakers at past ec

ec 97 "returning to our home land with Christ" Rev. Yuichiro Nakano (Seattle, WA)

ec 98 "home for the Harvest" Rev. Arthur Hollands (Seattle, WA)

ec 99 "ambassadors for Christ" Rev. Mitsuo Fukuzawa (Seattle, WA)

ec 01 "looking to Jesus" Rev. Hidenori Takahashi (Forest Falls, CA)

ec 02 "our Christ, our confidence" Rev. Kazuhiko Uchida (Forest Falls, CA)

ec 04 "You are God's Masterpiece" Rev. Akira Sato (Murrieta, CA)

ec 05 "love incarnated" Rev. Katsuhiko Seino (Murrieta, CA)

voices of past conferees

"Before coming to ec, I was asking God for the direction of whether I should return to Japan or not next year. But I am now confident that God brought me the burden for Japan. I am in peace with returning to Japan."

"I became a Christian while I was staying in the States. But now I am living in Japan. I was spoken through ec as I came back to the place where I became a Christian. I could realize that I am a missionary to be sent back to Japan.

"I spend my Christian life surrounded by American Christians. It was a great opportunity that I was reminded of being Japanese."

"I was so thankful that I could serve the Lord with joy through the conference. It was grateful that there were lots of precious encounters. I needed them!! I hope to have more Christians in Japan. I would like to work to connect returnees to the churches in Japan."

"God encouraged me through my encounters with new and old friends. Through messages and worship, God revealed to me what I need to repent and helped me to know that I didn't have to blame myself any more. I want to practice His love which enables me to rejoice in the midst of difficulties and to rejoice for others."

"[ec] convinced me of God's existence."

"By God's grace, the purpose of ec which is to encourage future returnee Christians was fulfilled."

"I was delighted that God reminded me of my Japanese identity at ec, because I do not have many Japanese Christians around where I live."

"I was able to understand the love of God through the cross. God also helped me to see that I had the gift of leadership through my volunteer service at ec."

"Ec renewed my devotion to Jesus. My desires to love the Japanese people and study their language were also renewed."

"At ec I realized that I had become weary and lethargic in my busy and spiritually difficult life in Japan. But through praising God, sharing with each other, and praying with my wonderful brothers and sisters I met at ec, my soul was filled with the Holy Spirit. Even after I came back to my routines in Japan, my heart is still burning. I would never lose sight of God from now on."

"I am not a Christian. At ec I made many precious friends. I think it was a gift from God, because I'd never thought the friendship would become this important to me."

Program

tentative schedule

	2007/12/27 (thu)	2007/12/28 (fri)	2007/12/29 (sat)	2007/12/30 (sun)	2007/12/31 (mon)	2008/1/1 (tue)
7-8 am		quiet time (or optional morning prayer meeting)				free (breakfast on your own)
8-9 am		breakfast				
9-10 am		small group Bible study				
10:30-12 noon		morning session	morning session	morning session	morning session	
12-1 pm		lunch				
1-1:30 pm		registration (1pm-)	workshops	optional interest meetings	re-entry seminars	regional meetings (overseas)
1:30-2:45 pm			free			
2:45-4 pm			workshops	workshops	regional meetings (Japan)	workshops
4-5:15 pm		dinner				
5:30-6:45 pm		dinner				
7-9 pm	evening session	evening session	men's & women's meetings	evening session	evening session	
9:15-10:30 pm	volunteer meetings	small groups	small groups	small groups		
10:30-12 am	small groups					

Plenary speakers

Rev. Hiroaki Yonai

Senior Pastor at Kokubunji Baptist Church: <http://homepage2.nifty.com/kbch/> (Japan Baptist General Conference). Born in Morioka prefecture, Pastor Yonai came across the Bible while he was a college student at Kyoto. Through the campus ministry that he encountered there, he became a Christian. After graduation, he went on to work for a bank. He was led to dedicate his life for ministry, and enrolled into seminary. In 1994, he came over to the United States after serving as a church planting leader in Nara prefecture and a youth pastor in Saitama prefecture. He returned to Japan when he was called to serve as a pastor at Kokubunji Baptist Church where he currently works. He is also a JCFN executive board member.

MS. Rieko Ando

Kirisuto Gakusei Kai: <http://www.hfj.com/kgk/> (KGK) National Secretary. Born in Sendai City in Miyazaki prefecture, she accepted Jesus as a Junior in High School at Conservative Baptist Association Sendai Kita Christian Baptist Church. She is a graduate of Tokyo University with a degree in Ethics. She has worked with KGK since 1990 as staff worker, and in 2007 began serving as the National Secretary. She travels all over Japan for this campus ministry. She is currently a member at Conservative Baptist Association Okachimachi Baptist Church. She is also a director of Seishowu Yomu Kai (Bible Reading).

Dr. Eiko Takamizawa

Chair professor of ICS Department, and Chaplain of Torch Trinity Graduate School of Theology in Korea (<http://www.ttgst.ac.kr/>) and Associate Pastor of Seoul Onnuri Church. Born in Kofu City of Yamanashi prefecture, she became a Christian while she was a college student. She was actively involved in the Bible study group at Tokyo University of Foreign Studies as a student. She received a call to, "Serve churches in Asia through theological education" and pursued a Master's degree in Divinity at Seoul's ACTS

Theological Seminary, and a Ph.D. in Missiology at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Chicago. Within Japan, she works as a Instructor at JTJ Mission Seminary in Evangelism studies and a Lecturer for a special program called "Love Sonata" sponsored by Onnuri Church.

Rev. Tetsuo Kagiwada

Pastor for the Japanese congregation at San Fernando Valley Holiness Church (<http://sfvhc.org/index.htm>). Born in Tokyo, he entered Japan's Self Defense Force upon graduation from Junior High. At the age of 21, he received God's call, left the Force, and enrolled into seminary. He came to California as an international student at Hope International University in 1982. After graduating from seminary, he pastored in Ibaraki prefecture. In 1997, he began pastoring for the Japanese congregation at San Fernando Valley Holiness Church in California.

There will be more plenary and workshop speakers at ec 07.

plenary sessions

As more than 300 conferees will gather in one location, we will hear from the Lord through worship, prayer, testimonies and plenary messages.

workshops

In addition to the usual topics - such as returnee preparation and ministering to Japanese - ec 07 is planning to provide workshops suitable for a variety of interests that conferees may have.

- 1) Leadership track - (for those who are interested in Christian leadership in Japanese ministry in the context of the workplace, to learn how to model Christ and to serve and love others as His example.)
- 2) Growth track - (for those who want to learn more about God and the Bible in Japanese, to deepen their relationship with God, and to grow according to His blueprint.)
- 3) Non-Japanese track - (for those English speakers who have been praying for and serving Japanese Christians, and who want to receive more training on effective ministry to Japanese.)
- 4) Returnee-recipient track - (for those who receive returnees in Japan and co-labor with them for the salvation of Japan, while seeking to understand the heart of the returnees.)

We also have some programs for those who are just beginning to seek God (or are just interested in learning about Christianity) as well as junior and senior high school students.

workshop titles from past ec

"Living According to God's Word," "Church Life in Japan," "Church and Ceremonies and Rituals of Japanese Culture," "To Become a Disciple," "How to Start Outreach Ministry," "What Magazines Don't Tell You about Marriage," "Biblical Leaders Who Live in Japanese Culture," etc.

small groups (SGs)

We offer small groups where you will experience fellowship of your heart. God has given some conferees lifetime friends at past ecs.

the voice of past conferees

“It was such an encouraging time of prayers as we prayed together in the circle with holding hands together. Such an encouragement brought me in peace. In my small group, I could share things which I had never shared with others before.”

“Small group brought me lots of grace. I was so blessed with the time of prayers during small group. I could not pray like this without being in small group. I receive a grace to intercede for one person. I did not have a Japanese Christian friend before, but now I have one.”

“The time of prayers during small group was wonderful. The prayer was actually answered, and I learned how important to pray together. Besides, I was equipped as a small group leader.”

“I could meet such cool friends. We could honestly share with one another. Small group is cool.”

languages at ec 07

As a general rule, the programs at ec 07 will be in Japanese. During the plenary sessions, however, English simultaneous translation will be provided (please bring a portable FM radio. Digital radio works better). Some workshops will be offered in English and others will be translated. You can also choose between English and Japanese small groups.

registration

cost and deadline

By November 10th

Students: U\$325.00

non-students: U\$370.00

married couples (per person): U\$300.00

*children (from age 2 to 12): U\$

From November 11th

Students: U\$345.00

non-students: U\$395.00

married couples (per person): U\$325.00

*children (from age 2 to 12): U\$

* Children program will be provided.

Do not give up attending because of financial reasons! You can apply for a scholarship. Ask for details.

how to register

by mail

Please fill out the registration form and mail it in with the payment of U\$80.00 (nonrefundable) or the full amount of the conference fee to equipper conference. You will pay the remaining amount at the conference (the on-site registration will begin 1pm on Dec. 27th).

Each applicant is required to submit an application form including a child. (note: Those who are under 18 years old, consent of a parent or legal guardian is required.)

Please visit www.equipper.org for a printable form.

online registration

Please visit www.equipper.org for online registration.

Please contact ecregistration@equipper.org if you have questions.

Upon the receipt of your registration, we will send you a confirmation with important information including a map to the conference site.

scholarship

Do not give up attending because of financial reasons!

1. Pray

God is the Provider. The Lord has sovereignly blessed many ec conferees and met their needs in the past. Let's take a step forward with expectation to God who provides.

2. Ask for prayers

Let's ask your friends and people around for the prayer so that God may prepare the path to participation in ec. Share your actual needs with people who pray for you.

3. Fundraising!

We are preparing for original tee-shirts and sweat shirts for fundraising. Use them for scholarship for yourself, your group, or someone you would like to support. Details will be updated!!

4. Apply for scholarship

As it is written: "He has scattered abroad his gifts to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. 2 Corinthians 9:9-13

Please write the scholarship amount you by faith request in the scholarship application form. If you are looking for inexpensive ways to travel, please let us know. We may be able to help (discount airfare referral, car pool arrangement, etc.) Contact us at equipper@equipper.org.

Register from Japan

1) Online registration using your credit card

Fill out the registration form online from this website. Make sure to check off the box next to the "Acknowledgment and Release of Liability" after reading and accepting it, and pay either an \$80 deposit, or the full amount by credit card online. Your payment will be converted using the rate of the day of transaction, and will be charged to your credit card. The balance will be paid at the registration table. At the conference (at the table), please make the payment with cash, check, money order, or travelers check, as we will be unable to take payment via credit card.

2) Using \$ denominated check or money order

Fill out the registration form online or send it via e-mail, fax or postal mail. Make sure to check off the "Acknowledgement and Release of Liability" after reading and accepting it. You can make a money order at the postal office and mail it to ec Headquarters in US. Do not mail your payment by traveler's checks or cash, however. The balance will be paid at the registration table, but if you choose this option, please be ready to make payment with cash, check, money order, or travelers check, as we won't be able to accept credit card payments.

3) Making ¥ denominated payment at ec Japan office (Registration form should be sent to US)

Fill out the registration form online, or fill it out and send it in by e-mail, fax or postal mail. Make sure to check off the "Acknowledgement and Release of Liability" after reading and accepting it. Please make a deposit of 10,000 yen to the JCFN Postal Account (Postal Account Number: 00100-8-565348 Name: "JCFN" - Please make sure to write "ec deposit" on the memo line). The balance will be paid at the registration table, but if you choose this option, please be ready to make payment with cash, check, money order, or travelers check, as we won't be able to accept credit card payments.

ec Japan Office: c/o JCFN OCC Bldg. 2-1 Kanda Surugadai Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101-0062
Tel/Fax:03.5217.2505 e-mail: nihon@jcfn.org

ec US Headquarters: c/o JCFN 3590 Elm Ave., Suite H, Long Beach, CA 90807
Tel: 562.427.1783 Fax: 562.427.9028 E-mail: ecregistration@equipper.org

Cost in JP

By November 10th
Students: JP¥40,000
non-students: JP¥45,000
married couples (per person): JP¥37,000
*children (from age 2 to 12): JP¥

From November 11th
Students: JP¥42,000
non-students: JP¥48,000
married couples (per person): JP¥40,000
*children (from age 2 to 12): JP¥

* Children program will be provided.

Air ticket

You will need to make air transportation arrangement yourself. There will be paid transportation (\$30/round trip; \$20/one way) available from Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) to the conference site. Details will be informed after registration.

Commuting to ec

In case you do not need accommodations at the conference site (if you commute from the surrounding area or just visit one day without staying at night), you may have discount rate for attending the equipper conference.

If you do not need meal at the conference site, you will only need to register on-site (no prior-registration needed). Yet, if you would like meals, please register (by mail or online) by December 8th. Ask for the discount rate at ecregistration@equipper.org. If your conference cost does not add up to \$80, please do not pay online but mail your payment (personal check or money order) to the ec Headquarters.

ec 07 Information

PLEASE BRING THIS INFORMATION SHEET WITH YOU TO THE CONFERENCE!

(1) How to contact ec05 office:

Through December 23, JCFN staff will be at the ec 07 office. Please contact the office directly. (562-427-1783). From the 27th (or if no one answers the phone at the office), please call 562-682-6880 or 562-682-6879.

(2) Registration:

Registration begins at 1 pm on the 27th (Thu). The program begins with dinner on the 27th (Thu), and ends with departure on January 1 (Tue).

For those who are commuting, or attending only part of the conference; please register upon arrival. We cannot accept payment via credit card at the conference itself. Please make payment via cash, check, money order, or travelers check. (You may use your credit card at the conference center-owned bookstore, however.)

(3) Bookstore:

During ec 07, you will have the opportunity to shop at a Japanese Christian bookstore. We will be able to sell Japanese Christian books at very low prices, due to a partnership with the publishers, bookstores, and writers. We will be selling Bible study materials, faith-building books, and so on. Unlike the conference center-owned bookstore, however, the Japanese bookstore is unable to take payment via credit card. Please be ready to pay with cash, check, or travelers check.

(4) Things to bring:

Although it is in California, it will be very cold, especially in the morning and the night. Please bring a warm jacket.

There are hot springs nearby. If you would like to use them, please bring a swim suit. Please note that the color of your swim suit might change, due to the mineral content of the water in the springs.

Please bring an FM 'digital' Radio if you need simultaneous translation from Japanese to English.

Toiletry, clothes, Bibles, notebooks and pen, and other personal things will be needed, as well.

The facility has linens.

pray 4 ec!

“And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all God’s people.” Ephesians 6:18

We would like to rely on our Lord as we approach all the planning and execution phases of equipper conference 07 (ec 07). Please join us in praying, before, during, and beyond ec 07 for those who are considering attending ec 05 and churches, fellowships, families and friends around them, so that He may work His best in their lives.

prayer worriers (intercessory prayer team)

If you would like to commit yourselves to the prayer for ec 07 and each conferee, join the prayer worriers. Ask equipper@equipper.org for more info.

prayer requests

Pray that God’s work may be done though ec 07: ec is not manmade but Godmade. So it is be.

Pray for ec 07 planning committee members: ec is made happened through the work of volunteers. May God work through each committee member.

Pray that every need may be provided: especially, financial necessity for scholarships and pray-ers may be provided.

Pray that participants may be provided: May everyone whom God wants to send to ec 07 be attending this conference.

For the conference center: May Calvary Chapel Conference Center be richly filled with God’s blessings.

Volunteers

Many volunteers have been involved with the making of equipper conference ever since the Lord has started this ministry. We need your help for the purpose of equipping Japanese Christians abroad at ec 07 in the following areas.

volunteer opportunities

You can sign up for the following voluntary services. Let us serve the sisters and brothers the Lord loves!

Ushers (at plenary sessions): we need those who help at offering and communion service.

Pray-ers: we need those who intercede for ec 07 (please see pray 4 ec!) and those who lead prayers during ec 07.

Power point technicians: we are looking for someone who can operate ppt/open song at plenary sessions.

Video technicians: we need someone who can videotape ec 05.

Photographers: we need photographers, too (those with own single-lens reflex (SLR) cameras).

Worship team: they lead the worship at plenary sessions.

Translators: we need Japanese- English translators at plenary sessions and some workshops.

Scripture reading: we are looking for those who can relive the Scripture at plenary sessions.

Testimonies: if you have something the Lord put in your heart to share at ec 07, let us know!

Performing artists: we had dance and music performances in the past in our effort to introduce creative ways to glorify God.

Fast aid: we are looking for some one with CPR and other license and those who can assist them.

Registration table helpers: we have to swiftly register many conferees in a short amount of time (those who can come to the ec 07 site from Dec. 26th or in the morning of 27th at latest).

Transportation helpers, providers: we need people who can provide transportation between the airport and ec 07 site. We also need greeters at the airport.

Book table attendants: we need someone who can help manage the book store operations and those who work as store clerks.

PA technicians: we need someone who can help sound system during plenary sessions.

Small group leaders (SGLs): we need SGLs who love, encourage and pray with conferees in small groups.

Workshop assistants: we are looking for those who can assist tape-recording and surveys during workshops.

donations

ec 07 faces the needs in the areas of conference scholarship as well as general operating fund.

“...for God loves a cheerful giver.” 2 Corinthians 9:7b

If you feel led, please send the donations to the following address.

equipper conference
c/o JCFN
3590 Elm Ave., Suite H, Long Beach, CA 90807

*Please make all checks payable to: **equipper conference***

PR

Spread the news of ec 07 to whomever interested!

Download the ec '07 brochure from our website at www.equipper.org

PR DVD

If you would like to have PR DVD, contact us.

If you have any questions for PR, please ask equipper@equipper.org.

fundraising

Our financial situation almost always comes in the way when we start recruiting for ec. Especially for people live apart from the site, the cost of transportation plus conference fee would be a big burden. It might discourage you to recruit those whom maybe God wants to send to ec 07. Yet our Lord is the Merciful One. If you start planning for fundraising now, it is not impossible to raise funds necessary and even more than necessary for many people to attend ec 07. We can give you advice on how to visit interested churches and fellowships and/or hold fundraiser events! The Lord knows our need and He can fill it. If it is His will for those believers who need His encouragement and those who are seeking Him to attend ec 07, He will make it happen. Let's trust Him and take action! Ask equipper@equipper.org for further info.

directions

airport info

Please use Los Angeles International Airport (LAX: <http://www.lawa.org/lax/laxframe.html>).

There will be paid transportation available. If you need this service, please indicate it in the application form.

Since it could take good three hours from LAX to the conference site, please select flights arriving on the morning of Dec. 27th and leaving in the afternoon of January 1st as much as possible.

There will be paid transportation (\$30/round trip; \$20/one way) available from LAX to the conference site. Please check the designated box in your registration form if needed. We need to know your airline and flight information by Dec. 13th. The fee will be charged at airport (credit card will NOT be accepted. Have cash or check available.)

Where to meet at LAX

Regardless which airlines you are taking, the place for meeting is same.

Come to around the middle exit at Tom Bradley International Terminal at LAX. Airport greeters will be welcoming and guiding you to the transportation to the conference site.

Note:

For those who arrive at Terminal 1, 2, 6, 7 --- Use free airport shuttle service to get to Tom Bradley International Terminal. When you get outside from the baggage claim at the terminal, you will find a sign of "LAX Shuttle & Airline Connections." Then, take circulating shuttle "A," and get off at Tom Bradley International Terminal.

For those who arrive at Terminal 3 --- After you get outside from baggage claim, make a right and walk to Tom Bradley International Terminal.

For those who arrive at Terminal 4 --- After you get outside from baggage claim, make a left and walk to Tom Bradley International Terminal.

According to the bus/car arrangement to the conference site, you might have to wait at the airport. Thank you for your understandings and cooperation.

driving directions

Please see <http://www.calvarychapel.com/mhs/> for driving directions and a map.

Contact info

about registering: ecregistration@equipper.org

other inquiries: equipper@equipper.org

equipper conference c/o JCFN

3590 Elm Ave., Suite H

Long Beach, CA 90807

Phone: 562.427.1783

Fax: 562.427.9028