



# JAPAN

day 14

**H**aving endured years of war that resulted in the loss of three million Japanese lives and the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan surrendered all of its overseas possessions and only retained the home islands at the end of World War II. In 1952 Japan regained full sovereignty. Today, Japan has the second largest economy in the world. Japan's high sanitary and health standards produce a life expectancy that exceeds that of the United States.

Shintoism and Buddhism are Japan's two principal religions. Shintoism is founded on myths and legends stemming from the early animistic worship of natural phenomena. Many Japanese believe that non-living objects have spirits. Since Shintoism is unconcerned with the problem of afterlife which dominates Buddhist thought, the two religions have comfortably co-existed. Many homes have "god shelves" where offerings can be made to Shinto deities.

Japanese Americans first settled in Chicago in the late 1890's, establishing small businesses such as restaurants and curio shops. By the end of World War II, almost 20,000 Japanese had settled in Chicago, making it by far the most popular destination for resettlers. Japanese maintain their community connections through Chicago's Buddhist shrines. **Pray against the stronghold of Buddhism and Shintoism that still remain a cultural identity among Japanese.** There are many successful Japanese in the business world. **Pray for relationships to be built with Christian businessmen. Pray for those who come as college students with overwhelming pressure from their families to succeed. Pray that they come in contact with campus ministries and Christians on campus.**



## FAQS

### SIZE

Smaller than California

### POPULATION

127,433,494

### CAPITAL

Tokyo

### LANGUAGE

Japanese

### RELIGION

Buddhism

### UPG'S

18



### POP. IN CHICAGO

17,000

### LOCATION

Northside of Chicago



### VISIT

Katsu Japanese Cuisine

2651 W Peterson Ave

Chicago, IL

773-784-3383

### PSALM 108:5

"Be exalted, O God, above the heavens, and Your glory above all the earth."

