

Today I'm sending greetings from San Jose, California!

The Lord blessed us with standby seats last Thursday on flights from Tokyo to Seattle and from Seattle to San Jose. We've been provided use of a missionary apartment and a car, thanks to my kind cousin and her husband. We got settled, and on Friday afternoon headed for my first appointment at Stanford Med Center before continuing 2 hours north where we got to see Katie's sister and family briefly, and spent the night with dear friends. Saturday, after a morning of errands, we were able to visit Stephanie, whom you'll recall had been hospitalized in Tokyo with brain cancer. She is at home getting great care from her father and his wife.

On Friday the doctors at Stanford spent over an hour evaluating my condition, my MRIs, X-Rays, etc. and tentatively concluded I have two discs which are leaking fluid and causing inflammation and pain. They've started me on anti-inflammatory meds and plan to inject steroids into the affected areas to hopefully reduce inflammation. There are several possible outcomes so we're still taking this one step at a time, and will keep you informed. We appreciate your prayers and concern so much.

After helping me settle in, Katie flew to New York for Caroline's graduation (on Wednesday). After a picnic with her family this weekend, she'll be heading back to Japan so she can be there for the international high school graduation and the last 3 Bible studies. I will stay in San Jose and continue with my Stanford appointments.

That's our report in a nutshell. Thanks so much for your ongoing prayers.

Tim, for the Coles