

今日は Today



Indeed, the very hairs on your head are numbered. Do not fear; you are more valuable than many sparrows.

Luke 12: 7

...I ran out of shampoo.

We also moved to Japan.

At first glance I see how this may appear to be a happy coincidence, but these two events were ones that I had been anticipating would conclude mutually. It is something that I had been praying would occur for a little over one year.

After visiting Japan for a brief period last year, Kaytlin and I were eager to return and finally begin our new life in the country. The enthusiasm we held prior to the trip was intensified with new relationships and fresh experiences to draw from. Our hearts ached as we returned to the United States with close to 70% of our support left to raise.

Getting back to Japan never seemed so far away. In the midst of that longing, I looked at the bottle of shampoo I'd already been using as though it were an hour glass. I asked God to let the next bottle of shampoo that I needed to buy to be in Japan.

Silly though it may be, that bottle of shampoo became my daily (usually...) reminder that God was in control of our funding. He was in control of the timing of our move – if it were even to occur at all. He graciously provided me the opportunity to surrender my anxieties over these things, along with my desire to control them, to him each time I washed my hair.

So over what amounted to roughly a year and a half, I prayed each time I showered that God would bring us to Japan before I bought another bottle of shampoo. Support came in slowly at times and I washed my hair. Other times it came in quickly and I washed my hair. Each time God brought us to a new milestone, my excitement would be tempered by the amount of support still to go as I, like Peter walking on the water, took my eyes off Christ and looked at the circumstance instead. And then I washed my hair.

Exhausted, excited and everything in between I washed my hair. God was always faithful to remind me that even though I didn't know how much shampoo was left in that bottle, he did.

So at 5:15-ish AM on Friday November 11th, 2016 – approximately 541 prayerful showers later – I squirted the last bit of Head & Shoulders into my hand and I washed my hair.