

ASK COACH TAKESHI



Takeshi Takazawa coaches and trains Japanese Christian leaders.

Question: Takeshi, how can coaching help Japanese Christians?

Takeshi: It encourages them and helps them pursue God's calling.

Question: What's important to remember when coaching Japanese Christians?

Takeshi: Here are 5 tips:

1. Use *aizuchi*. Say "hai hai," "aa so," and "naruhodo."
2. After you ask a question, wait, wait, wait. Silence is good. Don't answer your own question.
3. Listen for meaning, not words.
4. Context, context, context.
5. Just coach—don't explain what you are going to do.



Want to define, explore, and take action on your goals? Get a coach, who'll provide encouragement and accountability by listening, asking questions, and focusing you on taking concrete steps to achieve your goals.

To achieve your goals, get a coach

You want to achieve your goals. But it's just not happening. So many things are going on that you're having trouble focusing on your goals. You think that if you could get some help, you could get to work on your goals. And with regular doses of support, encouragement, and accountability, you could even achieve your goals.

What do you need? Someone to listen (instead of talking) and ask questions (instead of advising). Someone to believe in you and encourage you to grow. If someone would do this, you could develop a set of Sunday school materials, finish a manual on conflict resolution in the Japanese church, more effectively manage your e-mail and prayer letters, and deepen relationships at home, at church, and in ministry.

To achieve your goals, get a coach. During your coaching session, your coach will ask you, "What are your goals? What's going on? How's God using this? What are your options? What action will you take?" During your follow-up coaching sessions, your coach will ask, "What progress did you make? How can you leverage your progress? What's next?"

Coaching is the ministry of strategic encouragement.
(Romans 12:8)

Does coaching work? Yes!

"As a direct result of coaching, I have better time with my family and a more focused, effective ministry."

"Coaching helped me to manage my calendar better."

"Coaching helped me realize that I am not alone in ministry, that someone cares about me."

Get a coach, be a coach, or both. Today. To learn more, visit <http://closethegapnow.org>

Michael B. Essenburg, member of the Christian Reformed Japan Mission, serves as a coach and consultant at Christian Academy in Japan.

**WITH COACHING YOU CAN
EMPOWER OTHERS TO...**

Pursue God's Calling • Balance Life
Build Relationships • Focus • Work Smart

**GET CHRISTIAN
COACH TRAINING**

learnmore@closethegapnow.org

A service of Christian Academy in Japan
Empowering Christian leaders and organizations
to close the rhetoric/reality gap

closethegapnow.org