But My Heart Was Empty. Risa Raveendran.

Risa, from Nagoya, Japan, is a member of Community Church Nagoya and became a Christian 14 years ago. Before knowing Christ, she had a comfortable life with family, friends, and financial stability, but still felt empty inside. She struggled with depression and suicidal thoughts. Her turning point came after moving to the U.S., where she heard the gospel for the first time through a stranger who warned her about hell. Though initially resistant, she became curious and accepted a friend's invitation to church.

At a Christian conference, a speaker shared Matthew 7:7, urging listeners of any background to seek God. That night, Risa prayed alone, asking God to reveal Himself if He was real. She powerfully experienced His presence, feeling warmth and overwhelming joy that replaced her depression. From then on, she believed God was real.

Risa is now passionate about sharing Christ's love, especially with those in Japan who suffer from depression and spiritual emptiness. Her prayer is for churches in Japan to be places of healing, joy, and life, just as she experienced. She asks for prayer for God to move across Japan and for Community Church Nagoya to be a beacon of hope for the lost and needy.
