

# September Two-Day Retreat

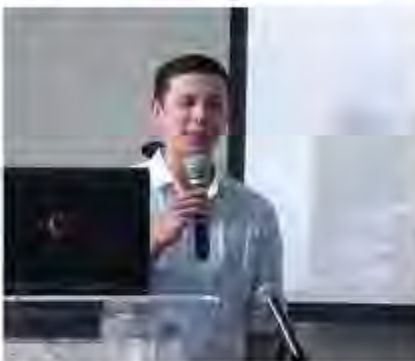


From September 20th - 21st, CARP Las Vegas held their first Two Day retreat in the Fall semester of 2019. This time around, they'd decided to have the CARP members be the ones who would give the Divine Principle lectures. Keeping in mind of True Mother's desire to educate the youth, Mr. Akira Watanabe, the director of CARP Las Vegas, felt that CARP members learning to give Divine Principle lectures by the time they graduate was the direction to go. Throughout the workshop there was a total of 23 participants, 2 being new guests and 6 being local Las Vegas church community members.



The evening of the first day started off with a unique mash-up icebreaker of "Taboo" and "charades," and other activities to help everyone get familiar with one another. Later on, the emcee Mr. Watanabe gave an inspiring orientation to help set the right heart and attitude toward the workshop. He wanted the people to keep an open mind so that everyone would be able to take in the content given to them.

The following day the participants prepared themselves to receive lectures by moving their body with "Just Dance," followed by an internal activity of reflecting on gratitude, forgiveness, and



hope in their life. The first two lecturers were Mr. Micheal Cordero and Mr. Kobe Neuhaus who were both witnessed by CARP 4 and 5 years ago respectively. Just a few years ago they were the ones sitting in the seat of the audiences, receiving the Divine Principle for the first time. The last lecturer was Mr. Chungbom Katayama, who is a 2nd generation from Japan in his 5th year of CARP. Even though they were nervous at first, they gave their best effort to convey the content to the audience. Through them lecturing, they testified to how they were able to reflect on what God has taught them. After each lecture, participants were able to

share with one another how they were able to relate to the Principle in their own life.

The bonfire was the last event where everyone enjoy the last moments together. People performed songs and poetry together to set the tone for the open mic testimonies. When the testimonies came, people expressed what they've felt throughout the whole workshop. One participant, George, explained that he "never felt that close to the church and the community," but once he joined the workshop he said, " I never thought that you guys would accept a person like me."