

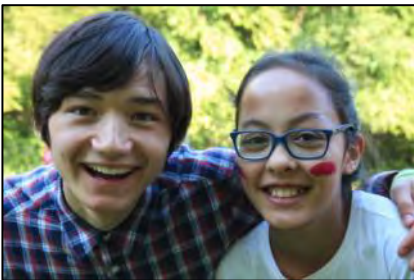
German Junior Harp WS

“Wings of Faith”

Neumühle, Germany, 8. - 14. August 2016



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TWENTY six participants ranging in age between 11 and 16 years old, gathered to participate in this workshop in the Neumühle seminar center. The motto expresses just how important and central faith is in our life. Our faith can help us to overcome difficult situations and help us differentiate between right and wrong. It can help us to do the right thing. For

example, how can a bird fly, if it does not believe that it is able to? What if it would never even try? But before it can fly, it has to develop wings and feathers and of course it has to learn how to move its wings properly. Just so, we can deepen our faith and work on ourselves so that we can one day spiritually ‘fly’-to be truly free in all the good things that we do.

It was a quotation from True Father that had especially inspired us to choose the motto: ‘There are many insects that go through three stages in their life. Generally, insects have wings. They live first of all in water, then on land, and finally in the air. But do humans, who are known as the lords of creation, have wings? We have a pair of wings, but from a higher dimension’.

In order to better understand what faith is all about, we gave each day of the

workshop a theme: community, knowledge, courage, purity, trust and persistence. These were integrated into the daily program as the values and integral components of faith. And every day there were lectures about the Divine Principle and True Parents.

The first day was about community; that there one can find support and learn from each other about solidifying one’s faith. To strengthen community we built teams in the afternoon and had team sharing in the evening.

The theme of the second day was knowledge and the idea was to express that experience and knowledge make faith much more secure. Appropriate to this, we held a healing session that evening, where we sent our collective energy to Heavenly Parents and True Parents. After this, two of the staff members shared about their



experience with God and True Parents. On this evening, we were able to establish a strong spiritual atmosphere in the workshop, and for many it was very emotional and many could connect with Heavenly Parents. It was a valuable experience.

On the third full day, we held a challenge day with the theme of being courageous and standing up for your faith even when the majority oppose you.

Purity was the theme of the next day, because this plays a very important role in our lives. In order to tackle this topic, we had an afternoon, where the participants

could spend time in separate brothers' and sisters' groups. In the evening, we heard a testimony from a 2 gen couple about their time before the Blessing and how they prepared for it. And finally there were purity talk groups where problems could be freely discussed and solutions sought together, or ideas could be exchanged.

On the last day we heard a lecture on the topic of how one can integrate the Divine Principle into daily life. Then was a 'family evening' with a lot of amusing contributions. But we ended the workshop with an exercise called „touch someone who“. Through this exercise, one can

express gratitude and recognition to another. It was a powerful and emotional exercise that moved us all. Together we closed the workshop with a camp fire under the evening sky.

All in all, I think that the workshop had a more internal than external nature. Of course, there was always free time, sport, and games in which everyone could participate. I think that everyone was able to learn a lot to take home from the workshop- the lectures and the program. We were all able to strengthen our spiritual wings of faith.

