

Generation Peace Academy Weekly Newsletter: Nothing but Gratitude

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER 25, 2024

Nothing but Gratitude



Pictured above:
How most of us got to where we are now.

First Years & Captains

Generation Peace Academy set off to experience Heavenly Parent out on the fundraising frontline once again.

With renewed determinations, the participants have been eager to transform themselves and make a greater impact on the whole, which is exactly what this condition is focused on. The GPA members have set goals to break through in their character, relationship with Heavenly Parent, and relationship with True Parents.

The members are currently in Texas and Florida. Please pray for them and their safety.

Here is a snippet of a testimony from a first year participant, Kai Kellett, going into the Winter Breakthrough condition.

“God is our Heavenly Parent. Our responsibility is to be His children by treating ourselves as His children. If God loves us unconditionally, we should love ourselves unconditionally too.”

Cheon Il Guk Missionaries

For the past 8 weeks, the CIG missionaries have been in five communities– New Jersey, Georgia, Indiana, Bay Area, and Los Angeles– offering their support in witnessing and various community events. On top of that, one missionary from each team was tasked with a media responsibility, to capture photo and video of this mission, and to contribute to this lovely newsletter just for you. Here they are:

New Jersey – Kaelin Platt

Georgia – Daniel Sohn

Indiana – Takayoshi Kojima

Bay Area – Ryuji Hoshino

Los Angeles – Nana Horii

Thank you! Enjoy reading about their last week in their respective communities.

New Jersey



This was the last week for the CIG missionaries in New Jersey. To celebrate Thanksgiving, they joined a service project in the local community to serve food to many families in need. It was a nice experience helping where it was needed and seeing how a small group of people could make a big difference.

Overall, helping with different service projects, events, witnessing activities, the CIGs had many opportunities to challenge themselves and grow in the process. It was really nice integrating into the community and figuring out how they could serve and feel loved as well.

Thank you New Jersey!

Georgia



Knowing the mission in Atlanta was coming to an end, the missionaries focused on guest care. They invested into guests personally, meeting up with them, and giving testimonies of their experiences and love towards True Mother. The missionaries were surprised to see how open the hearts of those in Atlanta were.

Because the CIG's were closing off mission in Atlanta, the pastors planned a Masterclass with Minister Melvin Amos, as the missionaries expressed their desire to experience the Holy Spirit through praising God in choir. Inviting the friends they made along the way, they closed off their mission strong—praising God, and experiencing the love of God, the community, guests, and all of Georgia.

Thank you, Georgia.

Bay Area

In the last full week for the Bay Area CIG Team and the UPA missionaries, CIG hosted a game and dinner night on Wednesday and the whole CARP House hosted a 3-day retreat. Around 40 participants joined the retreat at Heavenly Hill with the theme, "Rooted in Thanks, Growing in Heart". It was a great experience where everyone had a lot of fun, felt a lot of love, and many new members felt like it was a whole new world.

After they arrived back at church, the CIG said goodbye to everyone and started getting ready to depart to have Thanksgiving dinner with the LA team and head into GPA's Winter Breakthrough Condition.

Thank you Bay Area!

Indiana

This was the last week of mission for team Indiana, and they went all out with 5 different events.

On Monday, the team joined our weekly youth night, followed by a second Japanese culture night on Tuesday, with the theme of "Origami Part 2!".

They concluded their witnessing efforts throughout this week by having final meetups on campus and inviting guests to a conclusion event on Friday with a fellowship dinner to thank the guests and give them an opportunity to connect with the community. The event was a success, bringing in 9 guests, and there were fun activities together and an explanation about the Cheon Il Guk program and the movement as a whole.

Additional events they participated in this week included a service project on Wednesday and a Friendsgiving dinner on Saturday at Pastor Hebangja's house.

Everything concluded with the CIG missionaries hosting the Sunday service. They gave testimonies, sang the offering song, and express gratitude to the community during their time here.

Thank you, Indiana.



Los Angeles

The hour has come. The CIGs have concluded their mission in their target

communities, saying their farewells. In typical GPA fashion, their last week was the busiest week and the CIGs in LA were bustling with activity as they made the final offering to God and the LA community.

These past couple of weeks, the CIGs have been working on taking ownership, supporting different events and activities. Although they supported many other events, this was their first time being the main organizers of one of them— a one-day workshop hosted at the Pasadena House, a church center that has been used for decades by the community.

They planned everything; from who would prepare meals, the activities they would play, and the lecturers who would be speaking. It was challenging, but it left them with a sense of accomplishment. Approximately 15 people came and received content about the Only Begotten Daughter, the Principle of Creation and the Essence of Jesus. The workshop ended with a sleepover at the Pasadena House, and everyone attending Sunday service the next day.



The last Vision Night they helped plan was a resounding success, with many guests and members coming to hear the message. One of the CIG members, Nana, gave a talk on Education of Heart. It was a powerful message, and someone even testified that they felt God speaking through her. The CIGs felt the impact they were able to make on the attendees, as their faces were visibly brighter as they left the event.

Their time in LA concluded by giving a report about their mission in front of the entire congregation. They gave a brief overview of all of their events that they participated in over the past two months, and ended off with a testimony given by Will Smith. Looking back on their time in LA, the impact that they made in the community is undeniable. There were many things that were made possible because of the CIGs. The presentation showed off the fruits of their labor and the genuine effort that they made while on mission.

“I learned that I am blessed. The Google definition of blessing is “a favor given to us by God”, and I learned that this is so true. I, and everyone else here is blessed. What we have in this movement is so special. We can go across this whole country and

wherever we go, we have people we can call family. Even if we go overseas, like Korea, we can still find people we call family. And it's our duty to spread these blessings. Of course, in this time as CIG missionaries our mission is to spread this love that True Parents gave us. But our mission shouldn't end here, we're lifetime missionaries. And even if we don't spread the truth, we can spread love. Not just through Principle, but primarily through love. And that's how we can move people's hearts."

Although Will was the one who gave the representative testimony for service, everything he said strikes true for the CIG missionaries. Witnessing is simply about how much love we can give to the people; bringing God's children back to his family.

We are life-long missionaries. Our mission doesn't end here even when they leave LA, but their mission continues even as they go out into a fundraising condition. Their mission and duty is to spread the love of True Parents wherever they are, whatever they are doing.

They deeply appreciated their time in LA; for all of the love they received, for all of the experiences they had, and for all of the people they were able to meet and invest into. As they conclude their time in Fall Training, they are more ready than ever to invest into the Winter Breakthrough Condition that is coming up.

Thank you, Los Angeles!

Heavenly USA

This week we were tasked with a very special mission. On Monday, we departed from our center in Little Rock to catch a flight to Las Vegas. Called by Reverend Demian Dunkley, we attended the World Christian Leadership Conference (WCLC) at the International Peace Education Center (IPEC). There, Christian clergy from around the world gathered together to discuss how we can build a more unified world, centering on God, our Heavenly Parent.

Joyce Konan, a 3rd year on HUSA, shared a testimony about her experience going to Las Vegas.

"I learned about the mission of what it means to be a Heavenly USA member, and that means learning how to love and accept the country regardless of its challenges—overcoming my own personal challenges and resistance against America for the sake of God's Providence. I was really inspired by the leaders because I could see that these men and women, though they were not perfect, I could see that they were dedicating their lives for the sake of peace and for the sake of God— they all love God so much. Despite where they came from, even if they were enemy countries, even if they didn't agree on everything, I could see that each one of them loved the same God that I did, and so that was really inspiring."



After spending 58 days in Little Rock, we felt very sentimental in having to move on. The last couple weeks, we've been preparing to leave Little Rock. The Little Rock Family Church members prepared a "Thank You" dinner for us, during which we shared our testimonies about our time there. Much gratitude was shared on both sides. We received so much love from the community while being here, our aunts and uncles took very good care of us. With their foundation, HUSA was able to help bring more people into this Heavenly family.

We hope the seed that we planted there will continue to grow and flourish—even if we're not there physically, our hearts will be!

Thank you for reading the newsletter this week! Our next stop in God's providence is Nashville, Tennessee!

This newsletter is for you, if you have a suggestion or something you'd like to see, respond to this email and we'll see what we can do.

Thank you for reading! We'll see you again in next week's newsletter
In the meantime...

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