

# Il Shim

## A LIFE OF PURE RELATIONSHIPS

- FINAL REPORT -



This autumn, from Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> until Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>, an Il Shim program took place in the Vienna Community. The **five-week long Purity program** consisted of **five 90min. Sessions**, respectively taking place every Sunday after Sunday service, and concluded with a final meeting to celebrate the **Graduation** of the participants as a Community on Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>.

Il Shim literally means “**One Heart**” and derives from the Korean word “Il” (one) and “Shim” (heart). The origin of the name goes back to the time when **True Father** was **released from Danbury prison**. At the time He held a Ceremony to celebrate the unity of God and True Parents in “One Heart” and the inheritance of True Parents’ victories by the True Children. The name was later adopted for this Il Shim ceremony for Blessed children.

The ceremony is known as a **Purity ceremony**, but it does not only mean that the graduates promise to remain sexually pure for their future partner. Instead, it also means that they commit themselves to **a life of true values** and to take **ownership** over their lives of faith. Nine Blessed Children took part in the program to make

this precious step in their life of faith. We also were very moved to be able to share this exciting journey on a weekly basis with their parents as well.

The five sessions respectively covered a specific topic: **God, Family, Unificationist traditions, Purity and the Grace of the Blessing**. During each session participants had a chance to share and reflect on these topics as well as receive different kinds of inputs and inspirations through activities and talks from Il Shim staff and Guest Speakers.

The main internal points of each session consisted of HDH readings, sharing and reflection, but also included activities focused on the session's topic. Participants and parents received a booklet containing all the content. In this booklet were also written some homeworks that the participants had to do during the week as a sign of commitment toward this program and to try and go deeper.

Once all the sessions took place in the span of one and a half months the Graduation ceremony was finally held on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November as a whole Vienna Community where the participants received their Graduation certificates, together with a special **Purity Ring** that symbolizes their commitment to a pure and responsible life as well as **Holy Items** (Holy salt, Holy candle and Holy matches) to represent their decision to take ownership over their lives of faith. Very special parts of the Graduation were the sharing of the **personal vows**, written by participants towards their parents as well as parents towards their children, the **Public Purity pledge** by the participants in front of the Community and finally the Community pledge in front of the participants. There the members of the Vienna Community committed themselves to support the Youth in their Growth and be good examples of people of integrity and heart.

















The overall program was surely time requiring for organizers, participants and parents and we want to thank everyone for their dedicated investment and support! It was nonetheless a great success which we want to offer with all our hearts to Heavenly Parent and True Parents! We wish that Heavenly Parent can be happy about having found some more nine dedicated young people to follow His way and be determined to achieve His dream together.

Best regards,

The Austrian HARP Committee & HARP Parents

*Valerio, Tanja, Beatrice, Mario, Michi*

*Petra and José Suarez*

