

Results from the one-day Divine Principle workshop in Romania

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We are happy to report our results from last week concerning the one-day Divine Principle workshop, which took place on the October 22. The title of the meeting was "How to restore our true human value?" The topic covered both responsibility and freedom, as they are working hand in hand and depending on each other in our pursuit of happiness, as an aspect of our life's purpose. Naturally, it also delved into the cause and root of human suffering and the solution for all of this through the Principle of Restoration. The Peace Center hosted three guests, setting up the spiritual atmosphere in which all could feel welcomed and accepted. All the participants willingly expressed their understanding and personal beliefs during the discussion time or whenever the lecturer challenged them to do so.



The Divine Principle lectures

PowerPoint material included some bold questions: How do we achieve mind-body unity? How do we recognize or become an ideal person? What did people lose at the Fall? Did you ever recognize around you manifestations of unprincipled love? Some of the most interesting and exciting discussion were about the language used in the Bible and how it was influenced so much by the historical time when it was written and the intellectual level of the prophets as they had been farmers, simple men, or on the contrary, quite educated men.

Another topic was about Creationism versus Evolutionism or more accurately how can we include them

both in a perspective that is equally logical and non-diminishing of the human status? One of our guests was wondering about the character of an ideal man. She mentioned that most probably when you are on the journey of becoming the ideal self you do not realize that this is happening; you are too preoccupied with what is happening -- your changes in conscience and heart -- that you surpass the ego and arrive in a higher plane of life view. There's no way to get bored while you're at it.



Our personal essence

Another fired up discussion concerned the Fall and the perspective offered by the Divine Principle, because people see a great value in true love but generally consider that the main sin was an act of disobedience. There are still many things to clarify concerning the relationship between the spirit self and the physical self and concerning the substance of the soul. After sharing and discussing, we had lunch together and then we had a happy day in the Peace Center, because there was a big protest on the streets, concerning the unity between Romania and Besarabia, a protest during which people suffered injuries.

The first game included miming, drawing and guessing certain words and the second game was more a way of solidifying the relationship between us as we had to write the first good word that came to mind when hearing another person's name, so that at the end each person received many pieces of paper with flattering words and smiles. We believe that all these activities bring us together and are necessary for our mind, spirit and body, keeping us healthy and happy.

Character edification

A point that encourages us in our endeavors for character education is that Romanian young people, compared to the Western countries, have quite a pure mind and good spirit. Many of them believe in God and they have asked many questions about the purpose of life. Consequently, we are still a nation that values the Christian ideology and traditions, our own national identity embodying such concepts. Faith cannot be imposed; it can be taught and shaped but never forced into somebody. Faith is a choice and a freedom and we are hopeful to think that Romania has not lost its inner freedom but it has maintained it because of the trials and tribulations that it has endured.

We are very happy for having been able to organize this one-day Divine Principle workshop, because we can feel how our relationship with the CARP members involved as staff can have a more open and flexible nature. The ultimate hope is to create the kind of bonds as between real brothers and sisters. In the context of the present society, the realm of *Shim Jung* is under constant reconstruction, but as much as we invest true love there is freedom of the spirit.