

Czech JrHARP Spring Workshop 2014

Prague, Czech republic, 9. -11. May 2014

Young Shik An



Andrej Uhnak gives a lecture about god – one of the four teams prepares for the lecture competition – Another team poses in their “hut” they made during one of the challenges of the treasure hunt.

This Spring Czech HARP took part in two different workshops, senior members travelled to Slovakia for a workshop coordinated by DONE, whilst junior members attended their own event organised by Czech HARP, from the 9th to 11th of May. The latter workshop was held just outside Pilsen in the grounds of Buben, the ruins of a castle dating back to the 12th century that now lies in the depths of a dense forest. In this beautiful and exciting setting we gathered together, fifteen HARPies, four staff, three blessed families, and even one young non-member.

The theme of the workshop revolved around ‘The Principle of Creation’, with Divine Principle lectures given by our uncle Petr Leba, and additional lectures on lifestyle by our older brother Andrej Uhnak. As well as having lectures, HARPies took part in educational activities, studying the DP in small groups and coordinating their own lecture presentations. This culminated in a final lecture competition in which a panel of judges (staff and parents) gave constructive feedback on both content and delivery. Whilst this was a short workshop we felt we could successfully offer our younger members an appropriate introduction to the first chapter.

We were pleased that four members of our HARP community, who had attended the senior workshop in Slovakia, also felt to take part in this junior workshop, most of them helped as team leaders and gave testimonies about their time in Slovakia. In addition to this we were pleased to have a testimony from one of our aunties and older members of the Czech movements. This evening of testimonies was followed by a 21-minutes prayer condition.

As well as developing a deeper understanding of the principle we also wanted to simply have a fun and memorable time together. To do this we organised many fun games and sports, as well as a whole afternoon treasure hunt that required HARPies to work as a team to find hidden clues and complete challenging tasks!

The best way to describe this workshop is ‘short and sweet’. All participants wrote meaningful reflections appreciating not only the beautiful setting and fun activities, but also the meaningful content of the lectures. As ever we are very grateful to all the staff - Uncle Petr for his lectures, Aunty Betka Lebova for her ceaseless care in the kitchen and delicious food, Elisa Brann for her help with games and activities, Aunty Magda Zatloukalova for her inspiring testimony, Uncle Petr Suč for his support with music, and to Andrej Uhnak for his coordination and leadership.