

## FFWPU USA SubRegion 5: Report and Videos from 2020 Winter Workshop

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Brothers and Sisters

I'm so sorry it took me a while, but I was finally able to finish editing the recordings from Winter Workshop, and uploaded them onto a shareable playlist. I also put together the participant reflections we received onto a document for easy access.

Here are the links! Enjoy!

Recordings of Guidances/Testimonies

[youtube.com/playlist?list=PL5YEDY6F3rl-9oXV5jzFIN0hJrRMZWv\\_8](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL5YEDY6F3rl-9oXV5jzFIN0hJrRMZWv_8)

Entertainment Videos

[youtube.com/playlist?list=PL5YEDY6F3rl\\_VYNVmNIRPglwuRFuxQzEQ](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL5YEDY6F3rl_VYNVmNIRPglwuRFuxQzEQ)

Photos

[drive.google.com/file/d/1Vbcc3oCwD7q-II1xmXSmG49WVJqD80S9/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Vbcc3oCwD7q-II1xmXSmG49WVJqD80S9/view?usp=sharing)

Reflections from Participants (organized by community)

[docs.google.com/document/d/1dDwylaoekuqJni8rePzZ65fhGVUeqhHHVbuXwrhBWhA/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1dDwylaoekuqJni8rePzZ65fhGVUeqhHHVbuXwrhBWhA/edit?usp=sharing)

This year's theme was "WHO AM I?" We wanted participants to discover what it means to be a blessed child, and through this journey of embracing ourselves as God's beloved children, become proud of who we are, where we come from, and what we represent.

We had 60 registered participants, 22 team leaders, 7 core staff.

Communities involved: Los Angeles, Bay Area, Sacramento, Washington, Utah, Texas, Hawaii, Alaska, Arizona, Las Vegas.

Each day we had one main guidance that had to do with the sub theme for the day. The speakers were all 2nd generation, centered on Kazuya-san's vision for winter workshop being an opportunity for youth to stand up and take on responsibility, not just as the team leaders, but as the content givers.

The speakers were: Greg Couweleers, Shinghi Detlefsen, Yun-A Johnson, Tamae Seto (Kodiak youth pastor), Takahito Kikuchi, and GPA team. The recordings for all of these talks are available by following the link above.

We received great feedback about our talks this time, especially from the team leaders. Shinghi especially got a lot of shoutouts from the participants for his tearful testimony that moved many of their hearts. For many of the talks, there was a strong emphasis on the significance of the parent-child relationship, which I thought was very timely during this period when we are spending more time at home than ever before and having to face the challenges in our relationship with our parents.

We also got a lot of feedback saying their favorite part of the workshop was the brother/sister night

program. As core staff, we also felt it went very well and were impressed by how vulnerable and supportive the kids were with each other, even when addressing painful topics. But it also showed us how much pain, hurt, and in many cases, shame, that these kids are carrying in their hearts, and how real mental health issues are during this time of COVID. We as staff are determined to continue following up with our kids, provide support in whatever way we can, and plan a brother/sister night part 2 with more qualified mentors if possible to address more of the questions they asked.

A post-workshop project I am working on now is a big card for True Mother with messages from the participants. We had them all write a short message for True Mother as part of their workshop reflection. (I included the link to the doc with all of their messages above. They all had such beautiful reflections.)

I'll print them out, paste them onto a card, and see if we can send it to Mother as an offering. My hope is that it can bring her joy and hope to hear words of love and inspiration from the kids.

On average, the kids rated the workshop 4/5, and for the question of whether they would be open to attending another workshop like this in the future, most of them answered yes. There were a few who said maybe if it's still going to be online, and none of them said no.

I am just overwhelmed and grateful with the amount of positive responses we received about the workshop, and also am taking note of all the improvement points people suggested to make a better workshop next time. I am so thankful for the amazing group of core staff who worked so well together despite this being some of our first time working together, and for their countless hours of preparation and their unconditional love for the kids. This chemistry we created in the team is something valuable that came out of this workshop and I hope to work with this group for more projects/events in the future.

Thank you parents, pastors, community leaders, Jennifer, and Rev. Thompson for your support and prayers.

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