

# Blessing Preparation Workshop in Moscow

Yuriy Gavrilin - May 19, 2019



A Level 2 Blessing preparation workshop was held in Moscow from May 17 to 19. There were 45 participants from Belarus, Lithuania and Russia, consisting of 19 families: both parents and children over 17 years old.

The workshop was opened by Mr. Alexey Saveliev, the vice regional director, who spoke about the recent providence and True Mother's vital interest in the future of God's lineage. He then introduced the workshop's special guest lecturers who had come from Austria: Mrs. Orlande Schenk, head of the Blessed Family Department of Europe, and Mrs. Heidi Mayr, a family counselor and matching supporter.

The first lecture was "Change of Blood Lineage," given by Mr. Igor Rumyantsev, the head of the regional Education Department. It was a very real explanation of the core meaning and value of the Blessing, which is so much more than a simple marriage.

Then Mrs. Elena Kalmatskaya, the leader of the Second Generation Department of Eastern Europe, explained in detail "The Matching Process for Our Children."

In the afternoon, the parents and children had separate sessions with Mrs. Mayr and Mrs. Schenk about how to prepare for the matching. The speakers gave a lot of practical guidance about internal preparation as well as much external advice on this topic.

After dinner Mrs. Schenk, who is of the Second Generation, gave her thrilling testimony on being matched by her parents and blessed by True Parents, giving not only a living example but guiding and educating both parents and children.

During the second day of the workshop Mrs. Mayr gave her testimony of matching two of her children, imparting valuable and practical advice for everyone.

In the afternoon Mrs. Schenk spoke beautifully about the value of blessed children, giving a deep sense of the preciousness of Heavenly Parent's lineage appearing on earth for the first time in history. She also explained in detail the process of applying for the matching: the application itself; the interview and confession; and different tools that parents can use for matching their children.

Throughout the workshop parents and children could ask many questions, have personal consultations, and receive materials to help them understand and go through the matching process successfully.

In the closing remarks parents and children testified that they could find a new deep and clear understanding of the matching process, feeling that we as a family are going through it together to realize the ideal of our Heavenly Parent and True Parents.



## Participants' Reflections

### Children

*"Practicing meditation and asking myself questions were very important. Do I invite God into my life every day, every hour, every minute? How much does He feel comfortable with me? These questions about a deep, heart-warming relationship with God are important in terms of relating with a spouse and preparing for the matching and Blessing."*

*"It was very interesting to listen to Blessing testimonies from the Second Generation point of view and the parents' point of view. It can reveal the experience of parent and child and show the whole picture."*

*"The words „You do not have to be perfect; you need to be mature" touched my heart. I could see habits that I did not notice before in myself. I will work to change them."*

*"I had an important realization after we did the meditation. I compared the fact that I need to make God comfortable within myself with physical difficulties during Chanyang. When you face your limitations, you understand that you cannot just give up everything now. The same is with God. We should constantly act, think and speak in a way that will allow God to feel comfortable with us. This is an ongoing everyday challenge for the rest of our life. But it is very important, and I understand it."*

*"Thank you for such a valuable workshop. I could receive the answers to the questions that were torturing me for a long time. Now I can clearly see the way I am going to walk."*

*"These kinds of workshops give energy to grow and become better."*

### Parents

*“Before this workshop I had the feeling that the Blessing is our task and I have to cope with it, but the way to do it was hidden under a seal.”*

*“The workshop helped me to understand the internal standard for the Second Generation. I am not alone; there are older, more experienced brothers and sisters. It became clearer what exactly I need to do with children to make the best preparation.”*

*“Our life of faith and work for the providence will help my child to be a candidate in whom other families will be interested.”*

*“I feel that the time of preparation for the Blessing is a time of rebirth and renewal of my relationship with my wife, because we urgently feel before God our responsibility for our children and their future. This workshop is a strong impulse to deeply realize the value of the Blessing and the value of our children as the Second Generation.”*

*“This workshop for me became the moment I could gain internal confidence, get rid of extra fears. I understood the process, what I should do, and how parents and children become internally ready for the matching when they go through the whole preparation process.”*

*“It was important for me, as a parent, to know the matching process in detail, what exactly should be accomplished at each stage and what kind of mistakes to avoid.”*

*“I was very inspired by the matching testimony that showed me how God is working in every situation in His own unique way. Parents are not doing the matching by themselves alone, but you see how God is involved.”*

*“My main realization is that parents’ problems directly influence whether a child can receive the Blessing and be happy in his/her family life. The natural conclusion is that every parent needs to work on himself/herself to become better and purer. Both parents need to work on their conjugal relationships to become people their children can be proud of and see as a good example.”*

*“I realized the importance of my relationship with my children, the need to have deep internal, personal communication with them. Often such kinds of talks fail. Parents should develop their abilities to listen and understand their own child. My gratitude goes to Heidi for the tools she offered to parents, and I liked how Orlande explained Second Generation identity.”*