

Young Unificationists and Christian Clergy Create Shared Learning Experience

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February 28, 2012



Blessed Teams Academy (BTA) member Kento Kawaguchi lectures on the course to restore Canaan.

Blessed Teens Academy (BTA) held their annual Divine Principle lecture contest in Dallas on February 28, 2012. This lecture tradition is used to expand students' knowledge of the Divine Principle as well as improve oratory skills. Most of the time, students are notified of their topic a week or two before the contest. They then prepare a five-to-seven minute presentation.



Ambassador for Peace Victoria Martin gives constructive criticism for students' presentations.

Rev. Hernandez, the district pastor of the area, heard what BTA was doing and invited the students to the American Clergy Leadership Conference (ACLC) meeting. He asked if a few of the students could present their lectures to the clergy, since the students were giving lectures on the same content offered at Original Substance of the Divine Principle (OSDP) workshops.

Of the thirty-two contestants, three were chosen to share their lectures with the ministers. Three ministers, Rev. Hernandez included, were asked to give scores on each of the lectures.



BTA member Miho Frankowsky lectures about the foundation of the messiah in Adam's family.

The one with the highest score was Sungduk Morales, who spoke about numerology. The judges appreciated the creativity in his poster, as well as his firm and confident presentation.

In second place was Kenta Kawaguchi, whose lecture was about Jesus' spiritual mission. The audience felt moved by his emotion.

In third place was Mi-Jin Nishio whose lecture was on the three world wars, and fourth place was Miho

Frankowski who gave a lecture on Cain and Abel.



Bishop James Ellerbee offered remarks at the Original Substance of the Divine Principle seminar.

In all, the participants were grateful for the experience and appreciated the constructive criticism.

It was very inspiring to share the pulpit with these learned men and women of the Bible and who are now the innovative ways to share the Divine Principle with their own congregants.

After the meeting all BTA students and ACLC members moved into the lounge for dinner and fellowship. The mix of ages and the willingness to learn made for enlightened and inspired conversation.

Speaking openly, sharing “the breaking news” and celebrating True Parents brought joy to all of us. I am sure heavenly Father was smiling.