

Generation Peace Academy GPA Overseas: Staying in the city of Choma, Zambia

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It's been a whole two weeks since we arrived in Zambia and we've been blessed with so many wholesome experiences!

After visiting Victoria Falls, GPA had the opportunity of staying in the city of Choma. While staying there, we split off into three different groups with intention of investing into the schools of the city. We then spent the day before preparing culture talks for the kids we were going to meet. Talks such as: living for the sake of others, family values, and cultivating character - talks we feel are really important for the growing brain to absorb.

Preparing for the talks, I don't think any of us truly comprehend the impact that it could actually have on the students. But after giving four talks to four different classes at Shampande Secondary School, the principal was truly grateful that we were able to teach about culture and said:

"You guys don't know how much you impacted the students. They've never heard the kinds of lessons you guys taught. They will truly remember you for a long time- maybe even their whole lives."

Hearing her say that everyone felt immense joy just knowing that through giving a short 15 minute talk, those children will genuinely remember it forever.

In another school called Choma Day Primary School, a couple of our members were able to get give culture talks and a skit in front of a camera crew from Chanel 1 News Station, which is a national Zambian television station that thousands tune into watch daily. It was such an amazing opportunity for us to share nationwide about GPA, and it was given to us by the district commissioner of the city!

In all three different schools we visited, we were able to receive so much love from the pure excitement of the children. Seeing them all scuffle to be a part of a photo never gets old. Just imagine the very second you pull out your phone to take a picture, a group of 30-50 children literally swarm around you, all bumping into each other, to the point where you almost drown in children. In the school of Njase All-Girls school, students were even going around asking everyone there for autographs! Even though the conditions of the schools aren't necessarily in an ideal state compared to the ones back in America, seeing every single student exert happiness and have the willingness to learn was very inspiring for all of GPA to see.

During our drive back from Choma, we were able to make a quick stop and meet with the district commissioner of city! Many times, he emphasized how he has the president on speed dial and can call him whenever he wanted. It was a very short five minute visit, but during that time, he was very inspired by our mission that he even gave us a blessing of creating a center within the city.

After leaving Choma, we headed back to Lusaka to invest into Barlestone Park School, which is the school next to the church center we've been staying at. There, we got to give talks about the importance of

purity, testimonies about purity, and a skit! I truly feel that they were impacted for the better, because some of them didn't even know what purity was. So, being able to teach them about it for the first time and have them respond positively to it was so amazing to see.



R. Horii, a first year participant, shares:

"After finishing the program we organized for the school kids, I was able to talk to Venus, a second generation student from the school for a little bit. She shared with me the impact the purity skit made on her, recognizing the value in keeping your own precious purity. Hearing her excitement made me feel like I want to give even more to these students. If these young children could be educated on such principles to build an ideal world, I see a brighter future for Zambia as a nation."

After serving the school in knowledge, we were also able to help in other ways, such as painting murals and painting a room in the school which is to become a library. We also went around the property and filled up about seven garbage bags of trash!

Overall, every single GPA participant here in Zambia can testify that they feel that even though our goals were to give, this nation refuses to just sit back and receive, so they just give back more. But being able to serve many different schools and impact the lives of a great deal of students felt very fulfilling for everyone!

