

Generation Peace Academy Newsletter: 11/11 Make a wish, God works

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GPA

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER 11, 2024

11/11
Make a wish, God works



Pictured above:
GPA and CIG missionaries at Georgia True Family Community Center

Heavenly USA

Sunday 11/4

Hello all! To start off the week, the Little Rock Family Church hosted a Peace Starts With Me barbeque! We invited our guests to a park pavilion for the event, prepared games, and even set up a bouncy castle for the kids. It rained before and during the

event and it tested our faith, but the people who wanted to show up, showed up.

Pastor Wess Morgan came and, together with Heavenly USA as the choir, sang four songs. Reverend Jackson gave a sermon about our original value, and how each person is a precious child of God. The atmosphere with everyone was very beautiful and God-centered. Despite the rainy barbeque, 2 people signed up to become members. God works!



Thursday 11/7

This week's workshop was electrifying! We had our new Peace Start With Me member, BreAchsa Brunson, lead a dance portion of the workshop. It was not just about dancing but learning how to “honor God” as Mihwa Prieto, core staff member of HUSA, would say, and have members step out of their shell and praise each other.

Next was choir practice with Uncle Melvin. Besides making sure we knew our part, he pushed us to express ourselves more freely and to not hold back. He shared that when we become self-conscious and “sing from our throats,” our voices become hoarse or muted. He made sure that we knew our part, but also was insistent on helping us express ourselves freely. It was a beautiful time where we could shine and support those who were new to taking the spotlight.

First Years & Captains

The GPA members are on their way to Blanco, Texas for their November Workshop.

They have completed their second condition with a 4-day mini competition. Each participant fought hard to reach their personal goals and excelled beyond what they thought they were capable of reaching. Members are experiencing a new level in their relationship with our Heavenly Parent.

Oliver Carrera wrote a testimony about having faith in God. Here is a brief conclusion of it.

“What I’m trying to say is to just put your full trust in God and send it. Some approaches really do feel a little uncomfortable to make, but you never know the experience the person might give you if you don’t ask... so go into every approach with no concepts, just have faith in God.”

Cheon Il Guk Missionaries

New Jersey

The CIG missionaries in New Jersey started the week off with a day of bonding at the American Dream Mall, the second largest mall in America.



During the Next Gen Saturday prayer vigil, a testimony was given by Masao Ishii on "True Mother's Love." Here is a snippet of his sharing:

"So when Mother told us that she didn't have enough time, that we needed to testify about True Mother, it was because she wanted me to grow and reach my potential so that I can be in her embrace. All of this was just for me: she doesn't really care how many guests I bring or how much money I make, but she just wants to see my growth."



How inspiring this is, as the missionaries continue to invest in the New Jersey community until the very end.

Indiana



This week, the missionaries of Indiana continued their witnessing efforts, and attended some meetings and events.

There was a meeting held by the American Clergy Leadership Conference (ACLC) at Indianapolis Family Church. There gathered many leaders and pastors that have been connected or exposed to our movement. They received the message from the pastor of the family church in Atlanta, Georgia, Reverend Abernathy, with Reverend Jackson also joining online. Abernathy gave his understanding and his testimony for the power that the blessing has to offer, to unite families centered upon God.

The young adults of the community also had a small hike at Eagle Creek Park, experiencing the beauty of wildlife, and connecting with one another before ending off the day with board games and table tennis.

Los Angeles

As the time to depart from their respective communities slowly approaches, the CIG missionaries double their efforts to invest further into the communities and witnessing. More opportunities were given to take more ownership through planning the evening programs called 'Vision Nights.' Third-year CIG Josef Buergi emceed the program, second-year CIG Will Smith explained the purpose and intention behind it, and second-year CIG Nana Horii, led the activity after the talk.

"I felt like it was better than other Vision Nights that we attended," Will noted. "I feel like the talk and the environment was really good. The icebreakers and the activity we did before and after the talk was fun, and because we helped plan it, rather than just being a participant, it made the experience better."



The talk from Vision Night was given by Yuta Horii, where he shared about mutual righteousness. He expressed that to uplift others, you can't just be nice, or strict. Rather, you must have both gentle care and tough love to truly uplift others.

Here is a testimony from Josef, regarding his experience in bringing one of his guests to an Essence of Truth workshop, where they go over the principles of creation, the essence of Jesus, and the Only Begotten Daughter in two lectures.

“This week I was excited to bring my guest Stephan to Essence of Truth to learn about the Essence of Jesus and True Parents. On Friday evening in the Cheongshim Won prayer vigil, I chanted his name 1,000 times to offer jeong seong to mobilize Spirit World. Stephan agreed to come 3 days before the event. But 6 hours before the event he texts me he can't make it because he is tired due to his busy schedule. I felt down and knew something was wrong spiritually. Then, three different people texted me about Stephan, and I felt it was a sign to not give up on Stephan and call him. Right about when I go to call him, he calls me and says he changed his mind and will come. He had an amazing experience as he was the only guest. I found out he had a dream, which led him to change his mind. We are currently going to read about Christology as we move forward in his education. I am excited to witness to Stephan and myself. I know True Parents 🙏 will solve all problems when we unite one in heart.”

Bay Area

Another week, another newsletter! This week, the Bay Area CIG team & CARP members went bowling with the Filipino families as a way to commemorate the end of the 21-day witnessing condition.

Later that week on Saturday, there was a CARP hiking event for members, led by Seung-Se Morita. They got to appreciate the beauty of the Reinhardt Redwood Regional Park and played World Cafe to bond with each other.



There was also the Hispanic Festival hosted by the Bay Area Family Church, where the CIG team helped out with guest care, taking photos, and even lifting up the piñata.

That's all for this week, see ya!

Georgia

Here is a testimony from one of our 2nd year CIG missionaries, Sunjo Braganza:

God gives me what I can handle

“It was during the sixth week of my mission in Georgia that I finally had my first guest come to an event. It was an on-campus event called “Peace Hangout.” My first guest, “Kaelin” was someone I talked to during my first day witnessing on-campus and it was six weeks later that he finally came to an event. He had a personality that was challenging for me in the way that he joked in a way during the event that I

thought was disruptive to the atmosphere from my perspective.

Asking God in prayer about it, the answer I got was that I had to grow my genuine curiosity and ability to “talk to people” to a level that I was ready to receive him. I grew these skills by working on it through the team, community & other guests; taking initiative to talk and get to know them though it was out of my comfort zone. Learning to be more vocal about my feelings and opinions helped prepare me for guests who have “opposing” thoughts or personalities to me. I can overcome this by discussing with my team. This experience helps me to know that God is intentionally putting people or situations in place for me to cater to my own journey.”

This newsletter is for you, if you have a suggestion or something you'd like to see, respond to this email and we'll see what we can do.

Thank you for reading! We'll see you again in next week's newsletter
In the meantime...

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