

Generation Peace Academy GPA: Our Korea Experience Thus Far

Nobuaki Iwamoto
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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER - APRIL 14, 2025

Our Korea Experience Thus Far



All First Years, Captains, Cheon Il Guk, and Heavenly USA Missionaries

Fastest way to overcome jet lag – staying busy. Click through the blog links to go further into what GPA has done so far (it’s a lot).



Seodaemun Prison, Cheongpa Dong Church, Cheon Bok Geun

By Koji Torikai

[Read the Blog](#)



DMZ, Paju Won Jeon

By Rebeka Bijukovic

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Ring Next Spring

By Nana Takami

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While being in Korea alone is exciting, to experience the providential events of the 2025 Cosmic Blessing, the Korean Epic, *and* the Entrance Ceremony of the Cheon Won Gung Cheon Il Sanctum, was truly a once in a lifetime opportunity.

Those blogs are coming out soon, so be on the lookout for those.

[GPA Blog Page](#)

The members are enjoying themselves and reflecting. For some of them, they are working. And working hard. We have many members throughout the three programs creating social media content of our Korea experience, so be sure you're following along to stay up-to-date with what's going on.



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

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GENERATION PEACE ACADEMY



CHEON IL GUK YOUTH MISSIONARIES



HEAVENLY USA



Apr 9 • Written By Koji Torikai

Seodaemun Prison, Cheongpa-dong, Cheon Bok Geun

Hello viewers of the Generation Peace Academy blog, this is your one and only, Koji Torikai, reporting for duty. I will be one of your many bloggers to show what GPA did during our time in Korea.

This was Day 1 of our pilgrimage and it was absolutely amazing. To start off our Korea trip, we got on buses and went to Seodaemun prison. Father was sent to this prison before establishing the Cheongpa-dong church three months after his release. This prison holds such beautiful significance and importance to the Korean people, as it was used during the time of the Japanese colonial rule. We walked around and saw all the small empty jail cells where they used to hold 20-40 people, the torture devices and methods that the Japanese used, and the conditions the Korean people were in. It was a unique opportunity to be educated about the history of Seodaemun prison.



Afterwards, we got our butts on another bus to drive to the Cheongpa-dong church, the original headquarters of the Unification Church. It was such an honor and blessing to be able to visit this building, as a lot of important, providential events took place in this church, such as True Parent's engagement ceremony and their Holy Wedding. As a 2nd-generation member of this movement, to be able to sit in the same room where *the* Holy Wedding took place, I was incredibly grateful. I even saw the same banner that was behind True Parents during their wedding. Walking on such a rich foundation and seeing the roots of our church was just a beautiful experience for us all.



Lastly, we got on another bus! This time, we went to the Cheon Bok Geun/the main church building in Seoul. Instantly, we were greeted by statues of Jesus Christ, Buddha, Confucius, and the Quran. We were able to walk around the facility, drink some coffee from their cafes, and

the Quran. We were able to walk around the facility, drink some coffee from their cutes, and even pray in their Cheon Shim Won. Going from the Cheongpa-dong church to this massive building, it was moving to see the fruits of True Parent's labor—to see how far they've come from such humble beginnings. I don't think there's a single property in America that beats this facility.

Overall, everyone had a fun time—learning so much about Korea and our church's history. I wish you guys were there to see it all, but hopefully this blog can do some justice to our experiences.

< DMZ, Paju Won Jeon

CONTACT US

4 West 43rd St. 5th FL, New York,
NY 10036

845-377-5018



Apr 10 • Written By Rebeka Bijukovic

DMZ, Paju Won Jeon

Hi everyone!! Today was day 2 of our pilgrimage, and our first stop was the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ). We took time in the morning to read and learn more about the significance of this place and how this division between North and South Korea has affected so many families across Korea. This was extremely important for all GPA members as we all strengthened our intention to go there seeking peace and unity between the two Koreas.

We offered songs emphasizing God's sorrowful and pained heart as He looks at this country, and also songs of love and unity, representing God's burning hope for unity. Additionally, we prayed in tears for the reunification of North and South Korea, to bring hope and inspiration to all tourists and native Koreans who were also visiting the DMZ that day.

We then visited the Paju Weon Jeon, the burial site of many members of the True Family and important early disciples of our movement. This included four of the true children- Hyo Jin im, Heung Jin im, Hye Jin im, and Young Jin Im - as well as True Mother's parents, True Father's uncle, and two of the true grandchildren.

We visited each burial site to pay our respects and offered prayers of gratitude for the countless sacrifices that were made by True Parents and their family. Members had deep experiences praying for the true children and were able to gain a deeper sense of gratitude for the position we stand in today as 2nd generation and pure water of this movement.

We ended the day at our hotels with dinner and a debrief with our teams, as well as orientation for tomorrow's Blessing education content. We are really excited for what the rest of this pilgrimage brings us!!

< Ring Next Spring

Seodaemun Prison, Cheongpa-dong, Cheon Bok Geun >

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NY 10036

845-377-5018



Apr 11 • Written By Nana Takami

Ring Next Spring

안녕하세요 여러분! Hello Generation Peace Academy blog readers! Today is Day 3 of our Korea trip, and instead of driving around to different sites in a bus, we got to spend a day in Cheongpyeong, the heart of our movement.

We had the very special opportunity to join the Next Gen young adult workshop, Ring Next Spring, at the Cheongshim International Youth Center. In the morning, we read a passage on embracing our masculinity and femininity to prepare our hearts for the content we were about to receive.

At the workshop, it was a time of camaraderie and guidance. We saw many familiar faces from all around the world and got to catch up with old friends. We received some beautiful guidances from Christine Froehlich, Nadya Kazak, and Carina Mendez.



They talked about the importance of the blessing and keeping our purity. I personally really enjoyed Carina's testimony about her journey with purity and how she struggled understanding the purpose of waiting. Her reliability comforted me that struggles and doubts are common and gave me hope for the future. Everyone took away something different from the guidances, and it's beautiful to see God working through each speaker to deliver a message to the members.

After lunch, the Ring Next Spring staff prepared an activity for the brothers and sisters to understand each other better. The participants got into teams and discussed qualities we appreciate and struggle with the opposite gender. Then, we shared with the whole group the answers people came up with. Participant Rebekah Kane shared, "It was a fun and learning experience to get to know the other gender better and expand our horizons."

Overall, it was a really good opportunity for GPA to join the Next Gen Department and envision Overall, it was a really good opportunity for GPA to join the Next Gen Department and envision and prepare for what our future will look like. Thank you to the Ring Next Spring Staff for welcoming GPA and working hard to curate this workshop for everyone.

We ended the busy night with a delicious feast. Teams went to different restaurants to enjoy platters of seafood, pork, and beef (with some vegetarians).

It was a great way to end off the night and get ready for the big day tomorrow. See you at the Cosmic Blessing 😊