

## Generation Peace Academy: Overcoming the Jet Lag

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GPA

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER - APRIL 21, 2025

### Overcoming the Jet Lag



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

The Korea pilgrimage has concluded, and the three programs are now separated again not to reconvene until the Conclusion Workshop in June. Read the remaining blogs to dive in and see what all the members and missionaries did in Korea!



#### The Cosmic Blessing

By Winny Kelalu

[Read the Blog](#)



## Cheon Won Gung Cheon Il Sanctum Entrance Ceremony

By Koji Torikai

[Read the Blog](#)



## Yamok Church, Cheonghae Garden

By Nana Takami

[Read the Blog](#)



## Busan, Peomnetkol

By Rebeka Bijukovic

[Read the Blog](#)



## CHEON. WON. GUNG.

By Winny Kelalu

[Read the Blog](#)



## Last Day in Korea

By Koji Torikai

[Read the Blog](#)

Now read on to see what the programs will be doing and where they're heading moving forward.

## First Years & Captains

Recuperating back in LA, the first years and captains have a decision to make: to either invest another year into the program, or to invest in their communities back home.

They'll split off into different tracts, one group going into leadership training to prepare them for the next year, the other transitioning back home to develop habits and create a plan when they return home.

## Cheon Il Guk Missionaries

Since going overseas once wasn't enough, the Cheon Il Guk missionaries are going overseas again! They'll be going off into three countries – Romania, Albania, and for the first time ever for the Cheon Il Guk missionary program, Korea!

Be on the lookout for social media posts and further updates through this newsletter.

## Heavenly USA

Heavenly USA missionaries are on the east coast, resting up in the great state of New York. They'll go wherever the Spirit guides them, so stick around, it's bound to be an amazing adventure.

The year is slowly wrapping up, and as it does, we would like to express gratitude for your support and encouragement as these members invest this time to grow and develop in their character and life of faith. We look forward to your continued support through the end of this year, and into the next.

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 12 • Written By Winny Kelalu

# The Cosmic Blessing

We finally made it to the special day, the day we've been waiting for, the day some of us are still waiting for (shout out to the singles 😊).

It's the 2025 Cosmic Blessing!

Inside the CheongShim Peace World Center, GPA was overjoyed seeing all older brothers and sisters who we look up to get blessed. It was such an amazing experience! Here are a few words from one of the couples, Terushi Nakaza from Indiana & Sanae Kato from Chicago!



Terushi and Sanae

## **What do you feel is the value of the blessing?**

The value of the Blessing is getting the chance and blessing to engraft into God's lineage and family. For such a long time, we as God's "children" have not truly been God's children because of the Fall in the beginning. It's a very simple statement that we are a part of God's lineage, but when we truly think about it, what a profound and incredible time we live in. I believe this is simply the beginning though to a lifestyle of the Blessing. Not just getting blessed and being finished but being able to cherish it and appreciate it with joy and then taking the steps to share it with other people so more people can be a part of God's lineage and can feel incredible love and return love to our Heavenly Parent.

## **How did you feel getting blessed?**

It's hard to put it into words. In a sense, my whole life has led up to this moment. In a greater perspective, the lives and devotion of my ancestors also led up to this moment. So saying it was great and amazing I feel is a huge understatement. For myself, the moment that it really hit me that we were getting blessed is when we exchanged rings. I was filled with a lot of emotions and love and felt immense amounts of gratitude. We were exhausted with everything happening and so much lack of sleep, but in that moment all I felt was joy. For Sanae, it was during Mother's prayer that she deeply felt that herself and Terushi are becoming one and being bonded eternally.

## **What are you most looking forward to as**

### **a couple?**

I think one thing is for sure having someone that you can literally do everything with and go through everything with. It brings a lot of comfort and security knowing that we don't have to go through anything by ourselves but we have an eternal partner that is willing to support and help shoulder whatever comes towards us. Of course there will be challenges and conflicts but even with that, being able to grow through these things is a beautiful thing. I think another huge thing is being able to create our own family. It's very exciting and something we've been looking forward to!

Don't go yet, here are more pictures of newly Blessed couples!



Aren't they so cute? Today, I was personally fascinated by the amount of people getting blessed. About 5,000 couples got blessed worldwide, and that's incredible. The couples' joyful faces made me think about how much True Parents have invested into this movement and we are their fruits. This has been Heavenly Parent's dream for thousands and thousands of years, and that dream was being realized right in front of us.

Within the blessing ceremony there was a new section, the purity commitment pledge & putting on our new purity rings made by Kristina Han. This has never been done before but Holy Mother Han wanted to acknowledge those who are preparing to get blessed one day.





Closing off the event with some cheers of Eok Mansei, I will conclude this blog with congratulations to all the beautiful couples who have now opened up a new realm and gate to experiencing Heavenly Parent's love. Our Heavenly Parent must be beaming seeing the couples. But the Blessing is not the only thing on Heavenly Parent's mind, tune in for the next blog where Koji Torikai will share about the opening of the Cheon Won Gung!

< Cheon Won Gung Cheon Il Sanctum  
Entrance Ceremony

Ring Next Spring >

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Apr 13 • Written By Koji Torikai

# Cheon Won Gung Cheon Il Sanctum Entrance Ceremony

Hello beautiful readers of this Generation Peace Academy blog, this is Koji Torikai reporting for blogging duty.

Today was a special day for GPA and for all of God's providence! Today was the entrance ceremony of the Cheon Won Gung Cheonil Sanctum, a.k.a. God's official home. This is such a momentous occasion for this movement because through the Cheon Won Gung, God can finally physically dwell on Earth since the Fall of mankind.

Now, GPA couldn't physically be at the ceremony due to weather, but we were watching the event live in a HUGE stadium (CheongShim World Peace Center). Still, seeing the ceremony was honestly so magical. True Mother was fitted up in a shiny, green robe with a grand tiara on her head. I could see the emotion coming from True Mother's face when she proclaimed that God finally has a home He can call His. This ceremony meant more than anything for Mother, as it was all for God.



Then, there was a big celebration with a lot of performances in the stadium we were at (the stadium was a big celebration with a lot of performances in the stadium we were at (the CheongShim World Peace Center). Crazy part was that True Mother appeared, surprising everybody there. I guess she wanted to watch. 🙌 The Little Angels came on and started singing "Heart of the Father," but it was a female rendition about Mother and the course she had to walk. Lastly, there was the epic about True Mother's course—going from Jo Won-Mo's devotion to modern day events.

Overall, GPA had an amazing time watching the ceremony and having fun at the celebration. We hope this blog did its best to describe how this experience was for us.

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Apr 14 • Written By Nana Takami

# Yamok Church, Cheonghae Garden

안녕하세요! Hello! Welcome BACK to the Generation Peace Academy blog! After an eventful weekend filled with excitement and blessings 🙏, GPA has left Cheongpyeong and moved south to continue our Korea pilgrimage.

We had a long drive ahead of us, but the three hour bus ride consisted of Hoon Dok Hwae, games, and lots and lots of naps to help time fly by! It rained as we made our way to Yeosu, but with the help of our amazingly skilled bus drivers, we safely arrived at our first destination, the Yamok Church.



Sign of the Yamok Church

The Yamok Church is one of the earliest churches True Father founded in Korea. It holds immense significance which is evident in a True Father quote, "The Unification Church could not be established without Yamok." It has a rich history, being a place where the first workshops and missionary training took place. We learned more in depth about the history of Yamok from the pastor, Kim Jong Young. He gave us a brief presentation with interesting stories about the church like the hole in the floorboard True Father broke with his very own foot. Then, as a fun activity, we were taught a quick folk dance to liven up the spirit.

Afterwards, we got a tour of the humble training center and even got to go inside the room True Father stayed in for 21 days.

We hiked up a small mountain nearby that True Father and many early church members visited to offer devotion and had the opportunity to individually offer a prayer. It was a peaceful time to connect to the beautiful scenery around us and to feel God's love.

We got onto ANOTHER bus with an even LONGER drive, but do not fret, we had a great time. Many people gave their life testimonies to each other and heartwarmingly got closer together. Can I get an "Aww?"





Before we knew it, we arrived at the Cheonghae Youth Training Center. GPA split up into two teams and had some family bonding time; we played telephone charades with goofy prompts like "Duck watching KDramas" or "Parrot singing at a Noraebang (karaoke)." Laughter filled the room and everyone was happy going into dinner.

After dinner, we played World Cafe to hear each other's highlights from the Korea trip so far and set intentions for the next half. On the topic of sharing our experiences, we ended off the night with testimonies from members of all three missionary programs. It was inspiring to hear all the God-given experiences and we hope you can hear them someday as well!



What an amazing day GPA got to spend connecting deeper and deeper to our Heavenly Parent's and True Parents' hearts. We are so excited for what the rest of the trip has in store for us. Stay tuned for the next blog, written by Rebeka Bijukovic, about our time in Busan!

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Apr 15 • Written By Rebeka Bijukovic

# Busan, Peomnetkol

Hey everyone!! Welcome to day 7 of our blog!! This was the final day of our official pilgrimage in visiting historical sites of our movement. We started our day at the CheongHae Garden, after getting an amazing night's rest and waking up to a beautiful view of the ocean.



We then departed on a 3-hour bus ride to Busan, where we visited the Busan Church Center and the Holy Ground Peomnetkol, where Father Moon built the first church center in 1951. This center was not a normal building however—Father built it out of mud, stones, and cardboard and lived here for one-and-a-half-years. We learned from our guide that it was from these humble beginnings that he offered intense devotion for the future of our movement. One of the places where he prayed most frequently was called the Rock of Tears, and we took a short hike to visit that as well. It coined this name because of how many hours Father spent crying in prayer, comforting and resonating with our Heavenly Parent's sorrowful heart.



We offered a unison prayer and individual devotions as well. Many GPAers had deep and tearful experiences in prayer, myself included, resonating with the spiritual power that lays in this holy ground. Below is a snippet from my personal testimony of my experience:

*The second I touched the Rock in front of me, I found myself uncontrollably crying, tears and snot coming down my face without any recognition of what was going on around me. I could really feel the depth of Father's heart in comforting God, this feeling that he was the only man on earth crying for God with this love and deep empathy for Him. Our God was so sorrowful. Father did so every day just to comfort our God, our hurt and suffering Parent. After facing rejection after rejection from his disciples and those that were meant to follow him, Father understood the pain that God felt, this pain of thousands of years of rejection. Father being the only one on earth who truly felt the heart of our God. He then built the foundation of our movement from scratch, paying the price of pain and suffering to make up for those that couldn't take responsibility. I am in awe, so thankful for True Father. For taking responsibility and comforting God with such a pure and sincere heart. Thank you for going through this so that I can experience the joy of life. The joy of living in CheonilGuk and in living a life where I can find joy with God.*

< CHEON. WON. GUNG.

Yamok Church, Cheonghae Garden >

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Apr 16 • Written By Winny Kelalu

# CHEON. WON. GUNG.

Hi hi! Good to see y'all again, we've been on an adventurous pilgrimage haven't we? But it's sadly coming to an end. We've had the privilege to visit many places where True Parents have set numerous foundations for this movement and today we'll be dipping our toes into something everyone has been waiting to see. The CHEON WON GUNG.

Here's a picture of Rebeka Bijukovic and I on the bus headed there, full of excitement.



Upon entering the Cheon Won Gung (CWG) it is filled with an ambiance of love, and such specific details. This place is meant to be a representation of God's home, God's temple, and substantially inviting God on earth. True Parents have done an amazing job with this building, with beautiful paintings that portray the significance of the Korean people and how God has been working for years and years through to send the True Parents of humankind.

Walking around this building I felt immense gratitude toward True Parents and how they sacrificed so much to resemble God's nature so that we could have a path and direction to follow.



Walking into the Cheon Il sanctum I was in complete awe. The mother of pearl artwork of True Parents and their history is captivating. When looking at the pictures all I could think is how this is not just True Parent's history but it's God's history. How happy must God be to have True

parents, they're His hope & are working towards achieving His dream.

Unfortunately we were not allowed to take any pictures of the artwork inside the sanctum but hopefully one day everyone reading this is able to visit!

Here's a sneak peak of what the captains were up to. We had a taste of Heaven G Burger. It was our first time eating there and it was delicious, I recommend the single burger if you ever go!



Thank you for joining us on this adventure in Korea! :)

< Last Day in Korea

Busan, Peomnetkol >

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Apr 17 • Written By Koji Torikai

# Last Day in Korea

Hello my fellow readers of this amazing Generation Peace Academy blog! This is Koji Torikai, here for blogging responsibilities.

Today is the last and final day of this Korea Trip. What a time it has been for all of us. Today was a very special day for GPA, as we were able to visit the Cheon Jeong Gung.

We didn't have much time to walk around and explore the Cheon Jeong Gung and its entirety, but it was massive. The view from the main entrance's balcony left me in awe—you could see everything from so high up (the Cheon Won Gung, the CheongShim World Peace Center, the Heaven G Burger Cafe, etc).

Inside the palace, there was a museum exhibition of True Parent's photos and statues of them as well. Walking around and seeing these photos felt very surreal for me because a lot of them were colorized, which brought so much life to the pictures.

After the Cheon Jeong Gung, GPA headed to the HJ Marina cruise to enjoy a nice ride across the lake—catching the beauty of the mountains surrounding us. Seeing the scenery was something I will never forget.

Thank you for reading our blogs! Catch you guys on the next overseas trip.



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