

Reaching the next generation one child at a time

IMPACT

Spring
2024

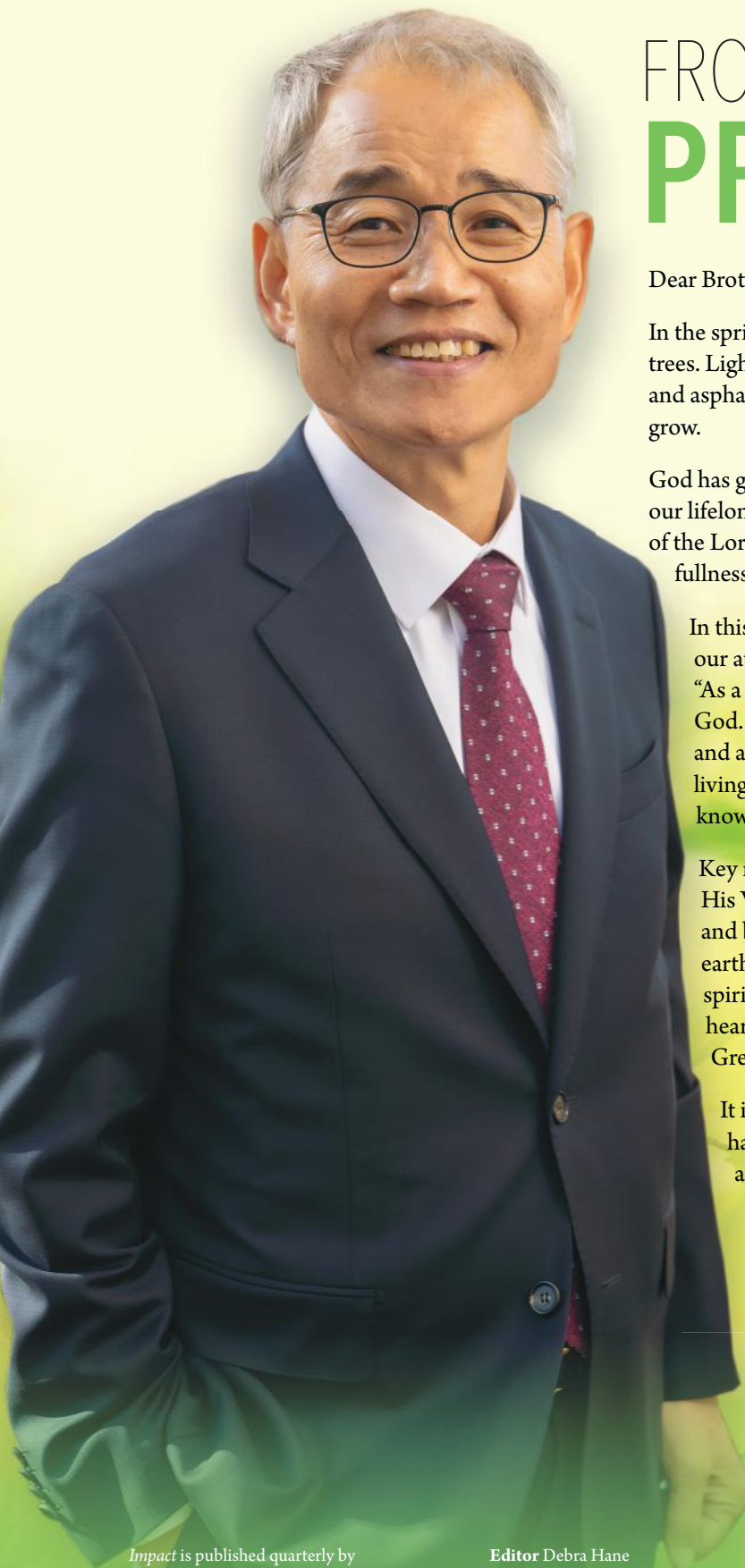


THE KEY TO 
GROWING FAITH



A publication of Child Evangelism Fellowship®

EVERY CHILD
EVERY NATION
EVERY DAY



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In the spring, it is amazing to see tender buds break through the bark of trees. Light green shoots push through the ground, cracks in sidewalks, and asphalt roads. This is the power of life God planted in all things to grow.

God has given us new life in Christ and wants us to grow spiritually. It is our lifelong task to grow until our inner being is conformed to the image of the Lord and we have attained to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Jesus Christ.

In this world, there are many obstacles and temptation that draw our attention to the secular world, instead of to God. David wrote, “As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?” (Psalm 42:1-2). When we come to the living God, we will be spiritually nourished and grow daily in our knowledge of Him and His will.

Key nutrients for growth are to have fellowship with God as we read His Word and pray through the Holy Spirit. What a great privilege and blessing to spend time with Him every day as the Lord did on earth. This will cause us to get to know Him more deeply, grow spiritually, and please God in our daily lives. We will understand His heart for lost souls and desire to fulfill His will to accomplish the Great Commission.

It is my desire to be more like Jesus Christ each day and be His hands and feet to share His salvation truth and love with children around the world.

A servant of the Gospel,

Rev. Jeremiah Cho

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Please Pray

- 1 Children will grow in faith and spend time with God every day.
- 2 Praise God for the millions of children who heard the true meaning of Christmas through a Christmas Party Club™ last year.
- 3 More children will attend *Good News Club*® and learn the Good News of Jesus.
- 4 This summer, children's lives will be changed through attending *Camp Good News*®.
- 5 Through *Child Evangelism Fellowship*® programs, children will be prepared to boldly share their faith.
- 6 God will develop a deeper faith in those who participate in *Christian Youth In Action*® this summer.






U-NITE
 Uniting Kids With The Gospel
 Through Technology

Check out our U-Nite platforms
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 CHRISTMAS PARTY CLUB™ INITIATES FAITH



Christmas Party Club

cefonline.com/cpc

Christmas Party Club is one of the Party Club ministries of *Child Evangelism Fellowship* that presents the Gospel to churched and unchurched children. These one-time events are taught by *Good News Club* leaders, Sunday school teachers, children's ministry workers, and other believers who love children.



CPC

IN 2023, 277,500 PEOPLE WERE TRAINED TO
CONDUCT CHRISTMAS PARTY CLUBS AROUND THE WORLD.
THE RESULTS WE HAVE RECEIVED TO DATE:

-  **295,000** Christmas Party Clubs
-  **8,800,000** children reached
-  **2,500,000** professed faith in Christ

Reaching a Tribal Community

Yoradyl Bautista, Antipolo-Montalban, Philippines

Last November 4, we embarked on a challenging journey to an Aeta community to bring goodies and God's gift of eternal life to children there. Some of the trip we walked carrying our supplies, and at another point we took a boat. All our efforts paid off when we saw the precious smiles of the little ones who trusted Jesus to save them from their sins! From the 51 children who heard the message of salvation, 43 professed faith in Jesus! The Gospel was also shared with many parents who joined us.

Reaching the Remote

Jasoda, Guyana

I wanted to have a seminar in the remote Pomeroon River area where there is no established ministry, but I needed help. One day my pastor called and said he wanted to send me on a mission trip for three nights with missionaries from New York and Canada to the Pomeroon River location all at his expense, approximately \$150!

I immediately said yes and started to pack my CPC materials and other Christmas party items. We left at 9:00 AM in a 14-seat minibus, then took a boat up the long Essequibo River, then another three-hour drive by bus, and then into a small boat up the deep and narrow Pomeroon River. The trip took nearly 12 hours. But the challenges were worth it! We are so happy for the 16 precious boys and girls who heard about Jesus through the lesson, *Joy to the World*. Six children believed in Jesus as Savior!

In Heaven

Burundi

Violette, a young girl from Ruyigi, Burundi, passed away from malaria on January 3. Her parents and Christmas Party Club teacher testified at her burial that Violette is in heaven because she received Jesus Christ as her Savior at a Christmas Party Club on December 28.

By Plane

Jho Maldangesang, National Director, CEF of Palau

Through our partnership with an aviation mission organization, we traveled to one of the small islands in Angaur, Palau, that can only be reached by plane or boat. The first Christmas Party Club here was remarkable. We only had one hour to find the children and teach the club because we needed to go back on the same plane. We quickly found seven children and climbed up in a treehouse to have the club. They enjoyed the games and lesson. I shared the Gospel using *The Wordless Book*. All seven of them understood the message of salvation and the true meaning of Christmas and received Jesus as Savior! They asked me to come back, so I plan to continue the ministry by flying in once a month in 2024.



Spontaneous Club

Bienfait Régis Ntakabanyura, CEF of Burundi

Benoit, an instructor and volunteer with CEF of Burundi, and I went to Rutana and Makamba in South Burundi for two days to train 95 volunteers to teach the true meaning of Christmas to unreached children in that area. The trips were not easy with rain and motorcycle transport, but Jesus helped us.



One of my favorite CPC trainings was on December 2. When we were training the teachers, children were playing nearby. I invited them to attend a CPC demonstration for the teachers. That day 56 boys and girls enjoyed the CPC. We praise Jesus that 25 of the children received Jesus as Savior.



cefonline.com/ministries/goodnewsclub

From the beginning, *Good News Club* has been at the heart of our worldwide ministry. Clubs meet once a week—usually during the school year—in homes, churches, schools, and other locations. Since the landmark Supreme Court decision in June 2001 confirming equal access to public schools, the number of Good News Clubs in the USA has increased dramatically.

With their parent's permission, children hear the Gospel through Bible lessons, missionary stories, songs, and other activities and are encouraged to have a daily quiet time with God. Evangelism and discipleship are primary goals. Partnership with the local church is important to GNC™ ministry. The ultimate goal is to establish children in a Bible-believing church for ongoing knowledge of God and growth in Christian living.



Each year CEF® missionaries and volunteers lead around 80,000 Good News Clubs around the globe. Many children learn about Jesus for the first time, come to believe in Him as Savior, and continue to grow to know Him better through the regular Bible teaching the clubs provide. It's not always easy or safe for CEF missionaries in sensitive countries to share the Good News of Jesus, but it is rewarding.

Giving God First Place



I WANT TO GIVE GOD FIRST PLACE IN MY LIFE. I WANT TO OBEY HIM AND GO TO CHURCH EVERY SUNDAY."

In one of my Good News Clubs I taught about the importance of giving God first place in our lives. During the lesson, I challenged the children to prioritize God and dedicate themselves to obey Him. In the midst of club, a boy sitting in the corner suddenly stood up and said, "I want to give God first place in my life. I want to

obey Him and go to church every Sunday, but our school has called us to come on Sundays. How can I truly give God first place if I can't attend fellowship?" His words deeply touched my heart. I realized these little ones genuinely desired to live out the lessons I taught. Witnessing the change in their lives inspired me greatly.

Becoming a Bold Witness

Though Batsal* did not know about Jesus, he came to GNC. The teacher shared *The Wordless Book* with him. After hearing the Gospel, he loves to come to GNC! After a few weeks he shared the Gospel

*name changed

with his school friend using *The Wordless Book*. Batsal loves to share God's love with others. Sometimes he brings a friend to GNC. Thank you, Lord, for changing his heart.





cefonline.com/campgoodnews

The *Camp Good News* program is an active part of the ministry of CEF throughout the world. Camp facilities are rented or owned by CEF. Staff are trained and screened and then present an exciting program focused on evangelism and discipleship.

Camper to Counselor

Pavle Kostadinovs, CEF of Macedonia

“Can I come and help you with the children’s camp this year?” asked Katerina. She has been in camp with us since she was 12. Now she is a mother of two, and her daughter came to the camp as well. Katerina attended Teaching Children Effectively™ Level 1 training a few years ago, and we gladly accepted her as a camp counselor—and she was excited. For the first time, she was “on the other side” as a camp leader. Her enthusiasm was visible. Katerina shared with us what camp meant to her—she came from an unbelieving family, and her mom believed first, then Katerina believed when she was 12. In her words, camp shaped her life, and she found her husband there too. What a joy to see fruit from ministry work years before.

After camp, Sofia, her seven-year-old daughter, gathered friends and told them about her experience during camp and what she learned there. She said, “Mother, I shared with the children that they need to believe in Christ who died and rose again for their sins.”



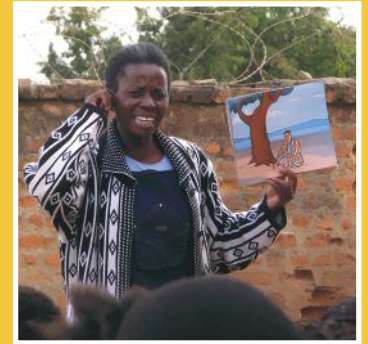
Faith Sharers

Trudie van Niekerk, National Director, CEF of Namibia

The children at one camp were trained with *Go and Tell!* and then went on an outreach to share the Gospel. One young boy, Mahelby, shared the Gospel with a police officer in the neighborhood. As a result of the post-*Camp Good News* Gospel outreach, 536 children and adults received Jesus Christ as Savior.



SPAN™



Trained and equipped nationals are the ideal individuals to minister to children in their countries. They already speak the language, know the culture, and can work where people of other nations are not welcomed.

Since 1972 the Sponsor-A-National™ program has provided financial assistance to trained nationals who live in areas where it is difficult to raise support. Presently, over 1,400 CEF national missionaries from 140 countries receive assistance through the SPAN™ program. This enables them to spend more time sharing the Good News about Jesus with the children.





GO and TELL!



The *Go and Tell!* program is specifically designed to teach saved children who are ready to learn how to use *The Wordless Book* colors to tell others about Jesus. It is divided into six 30-minute parts and can be used for a one-day event, weekend retreat, children's camp, or separate training during Sunday school or GNC.



SHINING THE LIGHT IN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Dr. Faith Dugan, CMI Online Director/Leadership Training Instructor, CEF International Headquarters

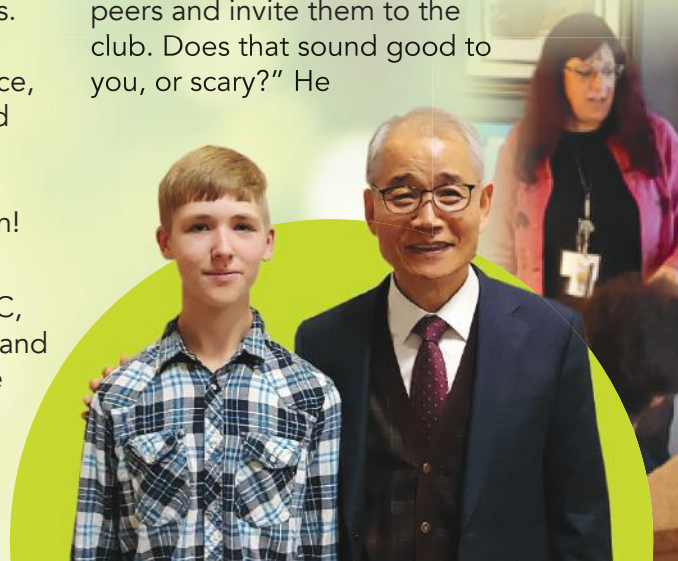
Elijah was born on March 28, 2010, making him part of the Generation Z cohort. This generation is growing up in a post-Christian culture. According to research conducted by the Barna Group, only four percent of Gen Z have beliefs that qualify them as having a biblical worldview.¹ Elijah is a shining example of this four percent!

When asked how he learned about Jesus, Elijah responded, "My parents took me to church and had devotions with us, and I went to *Good News Club*." Elijah also attended *5-Day Club*®. He believed in Jesus as his Savior when he was about eight years old.

When the end of the 2021-2022 GNC year approached, Elijah learned that there would be a five-week extended club for kids who wanted to learn how to share the Gospel with their peers. The GNC kids were warned that *Go and Tell!* training club would require work even though they would still enjoy snacks and games. Each participant needed to commit to faithful attendance, Scripture memorization, and practicing the evangelism method they learned. Elijah signed up without hesitation! He was twelve years old.

When the home-based GNC, which included elementary and middle school kids from the

neighborhood, returned to the elementary school, the middle school kids stopped attending. The solution, it seemed, was to start a new club geared for middle school kids. When I shared the idea of a middle school club with Elijah, I explained, "It means you would need to share Christ with your peers and invite them to the club. Does that sound good to you, or scary?" He



¹ Barna Group and Impact 360 Institute. Gen Z: The Culture, Beliefs and Motivations Shaping the Next Generation (2018 Report), 25.



nodded thoughtfully and gave a one-word response: "Good." Plans were made. The adult teaching team was determined. Permission slips were provided for parents to sign. Everything was coming together! It was a big disappointment when the club, which we were sure was God's will, didn't materialize. But God was doing something far better than we imagined!

God stirred 13-year-old Elijah's heart to start a student-led Bible club in his middle school. He talked with the principal and spoke with a teacher about using a classroom for the after-school Bible club. After the school granted permission for the club to meet on campus, Elijah determined the best day of the week for club. Then he walked through the school hallways with a sign-up sheet, asking his peers to sign up if they were interested in attending the after-school Bible club. Parents of these young people signed permission slips.



Elijah now leads a group of seven peers through the book of Romans on Wednesday afternoons! He explained, "I've always liked the book of Romans! We read and discuss one chapter each week and have time for questions and answers."

The Bible club started in November 2023. A few days later, Elijah, his mother, and three younger siblings visited CEF International Headquarters for lunch and the opportunity to meet President Jeremiah Cho. Please pray that God will continue to fill Elijah with wisdom and courage. He wants to have a Bible club in the high school he will attend next year. Pray that his example will challenge other young people to stand strong for God and let their lights shine bright in a post-Christian culture.

PRAY THAT HIS EXAMPLE WILL CHALLENGE OTHER YOUNG PEOPLE TO STAND STRONG FOR GOD AND LET THEIR LIGHTS SHINE BRIGHT IN A POST-CHRISTIAN CULTURE.



YOUR CEF RESOURCES:

Your nearest local CEF chapter: cefonline.com/locations for training, children's ministry resources, and ministry opportunities

Children's ministry resources: cefpres.com
cefonline.com/resources
cefonline.com/unite

Training: cefcmi.com for campus and online training

Ministry Information: cefonline.com



Fellowship One:Seven™

A biblical podcast from Child Evangelism Fellowship

Sharing the Truth of Christ's Light with His Disciples

We —

- discuss God's calling to share the Gospel with children around the world.
- explore the biblical foundation of child evangelism.
- interview individuals involved in the ministry.

"But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin."

1 John 1:7

Join us!

cefonline.com/fellowshiponeseven



Christian Youth In Action

cefonline.com/cyia

In Christian Youth In Action young people are trained to effectively share the Gospel message with children through Bible lessons, songs, memory verses, and more. Then they serve in summer ministries with the 5-Day Club program as the main focus. Participants usually teach several clubs, reaching tens of thousands of children around the world.



The Kees

"Over the course of many years at CYIA™ training, I had the privilege to help equip 14 young people from the same family. The parents, Rob and Laura Kee, have a strong desire for each of their 17 children to walk with the Lord and serve in ministry. From the first child to the fourteenth, I watched each one grow in their walk with the Lord and learn how to guide a child to the Savior.

Each faithfully served on a ministry team, teaching several 5-Day Clubs throughout the summer. Being brothers and sisters, they share similarities, but each one is unique. Many have returned year after year, thus further developing their teaching skills and friendships along the way. Some even met their spouse through CYIA. Some have returned to serve on staff. It has been a joy to watch these young people grow into godly adults with a heart of service to the Lord. I have the 3 younger ones to train before completing all 17! I have been blessed to work with each of these 14 young people who I greatly appreciate and count as family."



—Cindy Wells, Local Director, CEF of Missouri Greater St. Louis Area



THE BEGINNING

Robert and Laura Kee were first introduced to CEF during their time at Bible college while attending church with Jeff and Stacy Myers, former CEF missionaries. Laura said, "As a young believer, I admired Stacy's complete competence in working, organizing, singing, and ministering to children. We watched as their children attended CYIA. The level of training and organization continued to impress me as the teens organized clubs with churches and teams. During this time, we were just beginning to grow our family and hoped that our kids would one day be so equipped! As we moved states and cities, we tried to connect with the local CEF."

When Robert was a pastor, he noticed the discipline and quality teaching of the teens leading 5-Day Clubs. He commented, "I was a bit rebuked by how I executed my own services, so we started having our kids trained for ministry with CYIA. For the past 18 years we have had all of our children trained as they came of age. The result has been hundreds of 5-Day Clubs, thousands of children hearing the Gospel, and a general reputation of 'Wow! Your kids do such a great job teaching.' We credit CYIA for that."

The Kee children grew up going to summer 5-Day Clubs. The missionary story was one of their favorite parts of club. "I love the

interaction and involvement within the stories that make it come alive to the children," shared Bria. Emma said, "I loved the missionary story and learning about the courageous actions people did to share the Gospel."

They noticed a few things about their 5-Day Club leaders, which often included older siblings. Abigail stated, "I wanted to teach like them when I got older." And Sarah said, "I thought they were super composed and capable even as teenagers."

At age 13 they stopped attending and began leading clubs, starting with the two-week

CYIA training. Gabriela, the oldest Kee child, shared, "I was 'voluntold' to attend Junior CYIA as a shy 13 year old." But she set the stage for the others to follow. They heard her stories and saw her enthusiasm and were intrigued about sharing the Gospel.

"I LOVED THE MISSIONARY STORY AND LEARNING ABOUT THE COURAGEOUS ACTIONS PEOPLE DID TO SHARE THE GOSPEL." —EMMA



INFLUENCES

Bria watched four siblings go through CYIA before her. She said, "I had the chance to see the hard work CYIA requires and was curious to see if all this effort was worth it. When I saw how the Gospel message was clearly presented to children my age, I understood the reason for all of the work. The ability to explain the Gospel clearly and boldly, while giving opportunity to respond to it, is an excellent tool to have."

Robert and Laura lead the family to look forward to CYIA every year. "We talk with expectation and excitement akin to white water rafting of the upcoming summer session, the new incoming Kee, and who else might be interested in participating," said Laura. The younger siblings continue to watch as more brothers and sisters devote their summers to CYIA and lead 5-Day Clubs. When it was Emma's turn, the ninth Kee to attend CYIA, she said, "All my older siblings went and I was curious about what it was like to share the Gospel."

OPPORTUNITIES

The longer participants attend CYIA, the more opportunities they have for further training and leadership development.

For example, last summer Bria completed her 12th year of CYIA. Through the years she completed the Teaching Children Effectively Level 1 course, led recreation time, and served as student staff, club team leader, youth supervisor, and 5-Day Club



team supervisor. She demonstrated how to teach lessons for students as well as taught some of the classes. In regard to this year she says, "I am looking forward to the chance to come alongside young believers who desire to grow their understanding of how to live out the Gospel."

Through the years, Laura witnessed the impact CYIA had on her children. She reflected, "Through participation with CYIA, our children developed skills in speaking, teaching, leading, singing, and organization. They also grew in character through working with

“WHEN I SAW HOW THE GOSPEL MESSAGE WAS CLEARLY PRESENTED TO CHILDREN MY AGE, I UNDERSTOOD THE REASON FOR ALL OF THE WORK. THE ABILITY TO EXPLAIN THE GOSPEL CLEARLY AND BOLDLY, WHILE GIVING OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND TO IT, IS AN EXCELLENT TOOL TO HAVE.”

—BRIA

others (siblings!), accepting positive feedback, creating time and space to study, discipline in organizing time, courtesy, and seeing others' need for Christ. There is so much more. They gained a sense of accomplishment for tackling the challenge of CYIA training, friendships forged through shared trials, struggles and joy of ministry, and the knowledge of having been an instrument for the Lord's purpose in children's lives."

MEMORABLE EXPERIENCES

For Gabriela, CYIA cemented deep, lifelong friendships. She says, "We still talk regularly ten years later. I treasure their maturity and insight as we walk through life together, even though we live hundreds of miles apart."

For Bria, TCE™ 1 was one of her favorite years. "It challenged me so much and I got to see God use me and grow me in so many ways," she shared. "One memory from that year is when I was called upon to teach the Bible lesson for a first-year student who was unable to teach one evening. I hadn't even looked at the lesson plan and yet I knew as long as I faithfully prepared what I could, God was in control. That 5-Day Club wasn't perfect, but the Gospel was presented to the kids with hearts prepared by the Lord. It was a wonderfully humbling

chance to see the Holy Spirit work in my heart and the hearts of the children."

Sarah was not nervous about teaching anything except a Bible lesson. She explains, "As the first week progressed, my anxiety grew and I dreaded my first week of clubs. When I was assigned my first Bible lesson to teach, it was about Jesus calming the storm.

As I began studying the lesson, the application for the saved child was on having peace in times of trouble and it was a huge reminder that God who has the power over the raging sea is the same God who helps me when I teach. I constantly think back on this as a reminder of the power of God."





LESSONS LEARNED

Gabriela knew what she believed, but says, "CYIA helped me articulate it concisely to share with others. It gave me confidence to stand up in front of others and tell (even sing) about God's love and His saving grace available to all who believe."

Bria learned the key to sharing the Gospel well is faithfully preparing and trusting God with the results. She shared, "The ability to speak the truth of the Gospel instead of giving an opinion is a lesson I will always carry with me. My personal walk with Christ has grown through serving in ministry and being able to serve alongside other believers. The practical side such as relational skills, leadership opportunities, problem solving skills, creative outlets, safety training, and ministry opportunities has helped me both in ministry and life."

"One of the incredible things I've learned while attending CYIA," Reyna

replied, "is that the skills and knowledge learned don't only apply to 5-Day Clubs, but to

many areas in life. It's taught me how to present the Gospel effectively, speak in front of others, work with children, and be bold about my faith." Watching her younger siblings attend CYIA fills her with joy as she considers, "knowing they're going through the same training and being used by God just as I was!" She shares, "I recognize how blessed I am to be part of a family that has such a strong passion to share the Gospel!"

The most important takeaway for Emma and Abigail was knowing the skills and lessons learned at CYIA would impact them for the rest of their lives.

Sarah learned to let God take the reins. "He does a much better job than I do. Through the whole experience I've learned things that benefit almost every area in my life—how I talk to children as individuals and adults alike, the huge benefits from daily reading God's Word, and it all together enhances my ability to effectively teach children."



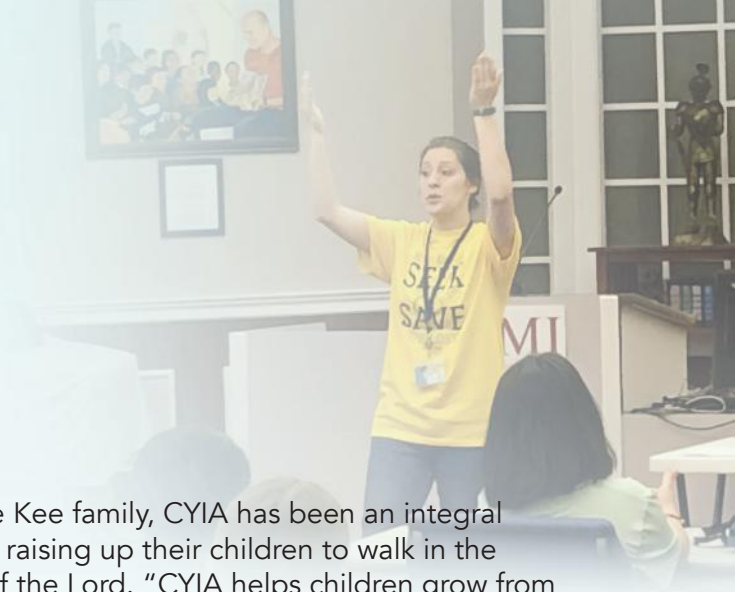


"I RECOGNIZE HOW BLESSED I AM TO BE PART OF A FAMILY THAT HAS SUCH A STRONG PASSION TO SHARE THE GOSPEL!"

FAITH HONED

"As each of our youth stepped out in faith to participate in this ministry, God has imprinted on their hearts a testimony of faithfulness that has helped them navigate the teen years knowing that God has, is, and will actively work in their lives," explained Laura.

For the Kee family, CYIA has been an integral part of raising up their children to walk in the ways of the Lord. "CYIA helps children grow from relying on their parents' faith to one that is their own. It provides young people with the tools and opportunities to 'taste and see that the Lord is good' (Psalm 34:8)!"



Left to right: Gabriela, Peter, Emma, Joseph, Stephen, Samuel, Elijah, Evangeline, Robert, Robby, Laura, Elena, Bria, Abigail, Joshua, Sarah, Ian, Hannah, and Reyna.



To learn more about CYIA, contact your local or state CEF office.

Visit cefonline.com/locations for contact information.

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