



# Class AGAPE 10월 Newsletter

## 밀알 사랑의교실

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### "My Very First Camp AGAPE" Written by Lydia Yeeun Cho



distinguished as having a "disability" or "different from others" in our current society, she acted just like any other friend and or a sister.

I signed up for Milal camp, so I can make up for hours and write on a college application. I honestly didn't expect anything because I missed out Milal for a year, so I didn't know most of the participants. However, during the three-day camp, the camp taught me more than I helped out participants. I was blessed to have Michelle Kim as my partner. She was very cooperative: dancing, playing games, etc. Even though she is slightly overweight, she could swim the best out of all our participants. When we are left alone, I kept talking to her to awake her. I first thought I was talking to myself. However, one time, she humorously replied "no" when I asked if I looked fine with a jacket; she then said she was kidding. I was very surprised that she joked around with me. Even though she is

One problem I have is I often judge, especially myself. I always limit my ability. My confidence was dying away after I came to America; I felt like everyone was laughing at how I talk and act. I hated attention and was afraid of meeting people. Therefore, I always approached new things with doubts. Michelle was independent even though people think she needs support. Through Michelle, I felt like "disabled" is a wrong title for the participants because everyone is born unable to crawl, walk, and live independently; we learn later. Participants may not be able to act normally but I should always see their potential and never judge before I see the real result. The lesson also applies to me; I learned that I should also approach with confidence; I may make mistakes but I will learn to improve. Michelle wasn't the only one who inspired me during Camp AGAPE.

On the last day, the guest speaker also changed my heart. He was in a wheelchair and had very little control over his body. His pronunciation was difficult to understand and it took him a long time to say one single sentence. However, I could not stop crying, not because I pitied him, but because I was embarrassed of myself. My smile was never genuine during high school. To others, I may be the most cheerful girl but I laughed to hide everything that was going on inside me. I was hopeless, because my life only depended on what others valued. I was afraid of doing anything new and gave up easily before I started because I thought that would hurt less. So I always think about the worst outcome and often fall into depression. However, it was embarrassing to see someone who has more hardships yet still preach. Through him, I realized that difficulty is what makes me stronger, and difference is nothing to be embarrassed of. There's no reason for me to look down on myself because I am different; I am not outstandingly smart or athletic. However, I have a heart. I say I volunteer for college but I was involved in many clubs and Milal, hoping at least one person will remember my name and appreciate me. I also loved the face that I can be helpful to someone even though I am so weak.



I am thankful that I had an opportunity to go to 2014 Milal Camp AGAPE. I feel guilty of how I learned more and possibly have had more amazing time than our participants. I also believe that my problems and worries apply to many high school volunteers and I hope this camp continues, and provide the chance for people to learn how valuable they truly are.

## "Milal Night" – Frequently Asked Questions:

**What is "Milal Night"?** Milal Night is generally a three night worship concert that features guests with and/or without disabilities. Guests that have blessed us with their presence in the past are Sohyang, Nick Vujcic, Lena Maria; and in 2014, we will be having Heejun Han and Christopher Duffley. Make sure to come to 2014 Milal Night and hear Heejun's awesome singing and heart-warming testimony, beautiful voice, and discover the talent of Christopher! ALL proceeds from selling tickets and advertisement sponsors go toward Milal Scholarship.



**What is Milal Scholarship?** Milal Scholarship is awarded to individuals with disabilities in three different categories: (1) Ggoom-na-moo: individuals with disabilities who show strengths through adversity to encourage their homes and dreams, (2) Milal Scholarship: students with disabilities who are currently enrolled in Bachelors or higher education programs, and (3) Part Time Internships: individuals with disabilities who are volunteering at Milal in the OC and/or LA weekly meetings. In 2014, 102 recipients were awarded in the total amount of \$161,400.

## Happy Birthday!

Oct 1 <sup>st</sup>	LA: Stephanie Oh	Oct 5 <sup>th</sup>	Irv: won Choi	Oct 12 <sup>th</sup>	ELA: Minha Kim	Oct 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Irv: Rachel Skelton
	Irv: Minjae Shin	Oct 6 <sup>th</sup>	OC: Eric Kim	Oct 15 <sup>th</sup>	OC: Jennifer Chang	Oct 26 <sup>th</sup>	LA: Amy Hah
Oct 2 <sup>nd</sup>	ELA: Jiyoun Yoo		ELA: Jeffrey Choi		ELA: Sharon Huang	Oct 27 <sup>th</sup>	OC: Mr. Young Jae Kim
Oct 3 <sup>rd</sup>	LA: Samuel (Sam) Lee	Oct 7 <sup>th</sup>	LA: Sam Park	Oct 20 <sup>th</sup>	LA: Janice Lee	Oct 28 <sup>th</sup>	Tor: Ryan Choi
Oct 4 <sup>th</sup>	Irv: Nellie Paing		ELA: Michelle Yi	Oct 22 <sup>nd</sup>	LA: Hae Sung (Soosung) Kim	Oct 31 <sup>st</sup>	ELA: Bobby Truong

## SPOTLIGHT ON: RICHARD KIM!

(The following is an article that was written by a Reporter and in 'Korea Daily' on September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014)



오뎅한 코, 쪽 뻗은 팔다리, 제자리를 뛰는 가벼운 발...  
 리차드 김(12.한국명 민혁.사진 오른쪽)군이 출발선에 섰다. '사랑나누기'마라톤은 이번이 세 번째 출전이지만 장애인 부문이 아닌, 일반 5K를 달리는 건 처음이다. 서로 뛰는 방향이 엇갈려 힘없이 주저앉던 두 다리는 뭘 수 있게 됐고, 허공을 응시하던 두 눈도 이제 말하는 사람을 똑바로 마주본다.  
 이날 리차드의 기록은 22분59초. 5K 참가자 1500여 명중 9등이다.  
 사랑나누기 마라톤을 계기로 리차드는 본격적인 달리기 인생을 시작했다. 엄마 이옥순씨는 "마라톤은 자폐증을 앓는 리차드에게 '할 수 있다'는 용기를 심어준 선물"이라며 "달리기를 시작한 이후 9년 만에 아들 입에서 '엄마'라는 단어가 나왔다. 뛰는 순간만큼은 아들의 장애가 보이지 않는다"고 말했다.  
 리차드는 요즘 코치의 체계적인 지도를 받으며 '마라토너'의 꿈을 다지고 있다.  
 구혜영 기자

A tall pointy nose, outstretched limbs, walking lightly in place...

Richard Kim (12 years of age, Korean name Min Hyeok) stood at the starting line. His third time participating in 'Love Share' but first time as a general (non-disabled) runner. The wobbly legs facing out of each other was now capable of running, and the eye gaze toward the sky was now



Photo taken by LA Class AGAPE

focused on the person ahead.

Richard's record was 22 minutes and 59 seconds coming in ninth among the 1500 participants of the 5K marathon.

Love/Share marked the beginning of Richard's life as a runner. Mrs. Lee, his Mother, shares, "Marathon is a gift indicating Richard, with Autism, that 'he can do it.'" After nine years of running, Richard finally spoke the word, "Mom" and confesses that when Richard is running, his disability is put to the side.

Richard is currently receiving intense and strategic training and dreams of becoming a "marathoner".

## C l a s s A G A P E L o c a t i o n s :

### Orange County

(2000년 8월 6일)  
 남가주동신교회  
 Dong Shin Presby. Church  
 담임목사:  
 2505 Yorba Linda Blvd. Fullerton  
 교사: 양고운 650.388.6918  
 간사: 조태화 714.873.7786

### Los Angeles

(2002년 4월 20일)  
 흥현선교회  
 Choong Hyun Mission Church  
 담임목사: 민종기  
 5005 Edenhurst Ave. LA  
 교사: 유효준 818.516.3473  
 간사:

### East Los Angeles

(2003년 4월 5일)  
 선한청지기교회  
 Good Stewards Church  
 담임목사: 송병주  
 2701 Woodgate Dr. W. Covina  
 교사: 변미선 626.246.5439  
 간사: 박민수 626.665.9556

### Irvine

(2007년 4월 28일)  
 베델한인교회  
 Bethel Korean Church  
 담임목사: 김한요  
 18700 Harvard Ave. Irvine  
 교사: 김지수 909.630.9982  
 간사: 홍혜정 949.232.7936

### Torrance

(2008년 9월 13일)  
 토랜스제일장로교회  
 Torrance First Presb. Church  
 담임목사:  
 1880 Crenshaw Blvd. Torrance  
 교사: 이보라 213.604.1550  
 간사: