

YOU ARE THE LIGHT

YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD
A TOWN BUILT ON A HILL CANNOT BE HIDDEN

MATTHEW 5:14



EST.2003



하늘꿈중고등학교
HEAVENLY DREAM SCHOOL

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- 2003년 개교한 국내 최초의 북한이탈청소년 대안학교, 경기도 교육청 학력인가학교(중학교, 고등학교 과정), 서울, 경기 지역 9개의 가정형 기숙사 운영(통일부 등록 사단법인 좋은씨앗)
- <수상> 통일부장관상(2001), 국무총리상(2002), 한국강리교선교대상(2002), 서울시장상(2006), 서울지방변호사회 시민인권상(2009), 세계여성자원봉사단체 소롭티미스트 루비상(2012), 자랑스런 정신동문상(2017), 경기도 교육청 연구학교 우수 평가 및 교육감 표창(2019), 부총리 겸 교육부장관 표창(2021), 통일부장관 표창(2021), High Touch High Tech 챔피언 연구자 선정(2022), 대통령 표창(2022), 통일부장관 표창(2023), 부총리 겸 교육부장관 표창(2024)
- <외부 평가> 교육과학기술부 민간교육시설 재정지원평가 최우수 등급 획득(2010), 미국 국무부 ‘탈북청소년 리더십 프로젝트’ 선정(2011), 통일부 ‘탈북청소년 대안학교 운영매뉴얼’ 개발 공동연구(2012), 통일부 북한이탈주민지원재단 재정운영 외부평가단 평가 우수학교(2012), 서울시 북한이탈청소년을 위한 맞춤형 교육지원사업 평가 최우수 등급 획득(2013), 서울시 북한이탈청소년 역량강화 교육프로그램사업 평가 우수 등급 획득(2014), 공동모금회 북한이탈학생 역량강화 교육지원사업 평가 최우수 등급 획득(2015), 서울사회복지공동모금회 지정기탁사업 북한이탈학생 특성화교육 지원사업 최우수 등급 획득(2016), 교육부 지정 통일준비(사범)학교(2016), 경기도 교육청 ‘연구학교’ 선정(2017~2018), 교육부 주최 탈북학생 교육 우수사례 공모 1등 부총리 겸 교육부장관상 수상(2023)
- <하늘꿈학교 사명선언문> 하늘꿈학교는 기독교 세계관에 근거한 전인적 교육을 통해 북한이탈청소년을 자유민주통일과 북한교회 회복을 이루는 일꾼으로 양성합니다.
- <핵심가치> Integrity(은전함), Frontier Spirit(개척 정신), Incarnation(살로 전하는 그리스도), Hope in Christ(소망의 인내), Next Generation(다음 세대)

Be Alive: Breathe Life Upon the Dry Bones

Ezekiel 37:1-10

irty years ago, like Ezekiel was led into the valley of dry bones, God led me into the field of North Korean defectors. Seeing the people struggling to survive amid hunger and fear, and faces frozen by suspicion and distrust, the vision God had given me became even clearer: “Prepare those who will bring the Gospel to North Korea.” That calling was not just a call to help, but to embrace the wounds and emptiness of the deepest kind. That was the beginning of my journey with the North Korean students. Children marked by malnutrition, disease, lies, and violence; they were, in every sense, like dry bones.

After COVID-19, the number of children born to North Korean defectors in China who entered South Korea increased noticeably. These children, unfamiliar with both the language and emotions of Korea, carried deep scars from never feeling loved. Their mothers had endured human trafficking and forced marriages for the sake of survival, and that suffering passed down scars in different forms to their children. In the midst of this heartbreaking reality, I once again realized how desperate the Gospel is needed.

The Lord taught me that life itself is Jesus Christ, and I made a resolution: “Proclaim the Word to the children. Even if they fall asleep during worship, keep declaring the Gospel.” Thus, our school’s identity was built upon bearing witness to Jesus Christ, the Life. The teachers, both in the classrooms and in the dormitories where they live with the students, share the Gospel first through their lives before their words — living out the labor of love.

The fruits of this labor are unmistakable. Students who were once like dry bones now cry out to God as ‘Abba, Father,’ praying tearfully for the land of North Korea. One graduate confessed, “I will go and share the Jesus I met in North Korea.” Is this not the fulfillment of Ezekiel 37? The vision of the dry bones receiving breath and rising as a “vast army” has become reality before our eyes.

God will surely accomplish the unification of Korea through the Gospel. In North Korea — where we often forget to look — 26 million souls are still dying without the Gospel and without freedom. There must be those who prophesy: “Come, breath, from the four winds, and breathe into these slain, that they may live.” I believe that God will fulfill His work through a person. Gospel unification is not an option but a calling, and it is a promise that God Himself will bring to completion.

“Lord, grant the people of North Korea the freedom to praise You openly.

Deliver the captives swiftly. We believe that You, the living God who is here among us,

will raise us and them up together as a mighty army.

In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.”

하늘 꿈 중 고등학교장 임항자

A Joyful Journey

Do You Remember the Excitement of Your First Trip Abroad? Under the gentle Californian sun and soft, warm breeze, a group of happy travelers created memories they will cherish for a lifetime — the students of Heavenly Dream School.

ForWithTo U.S. Travel Project

This past May, ten students had the opportunity to travel across the U.S. West Coast for 13 days, thanks to the generous support of the ForWithTo Foundation. The foundation, known for its wide-ranging social contribution activities, designs travel programs for underprivileged youth to help them experience diverse cultures and grow personally. In particular, Chairman Hyunshik Shim and Director Sunhee Shim hoped that students from North Korean backgrounds would broaden their horizons and encounter a wider world through this U.S. journey. Thanks to their support, diligent students who actively participate in school ministries — including the HDS choir — were gifted with this precious opportunity to travel abroad.

Today is the day of my very first trip abroad. I can't describe how excited I've been. My heart was filled with an overwhelming joy the moment I set foot on American soil. We visited Hollywood, and I couldn't believe I was actually in such a famous place! It was so much fun and made me so happy. For dinner, we were treated to a delicious meal prepared by Buena Park Korean Church. Tomorrow we'll visit more exciting places, so I'd better get some rest. America truly feels like a country full of freedom. I want to enjoy that freedom to the fullest and make as many wonderful memories as I can.

—First day in the U.S., Eun-ye's diary

Hello, America!

5/16 fri Hollywood Griffith Observatory	5/17 sat The Getty Center LA Dodgers VS LA Angel's	5/18 sun Buena Park Church Aquarium of the Pacific Long Beach	5/19 mon Universal Studio
5/20 tue Grand Canyon	5/21 wed Sedona, Chapel of the Holy Cross	5/22 thu Palm Springs, Aerial Tramway, Joshua Tree National Park	5/23 fri San Diego Seaport Village, La Jolla Cove, Balboa Park
5/24 sat Amusement Park	5/25 sun Buena Park Church Knott's Berry Farm	5/26 mon Shopping (Norstrom Rack, Marshall, Walmart)	5/27-28 LAX Airport to Incheon Airport



A 90-year-old elder, who shared the same hometown as our students, joyfully and warmly treated us to dinner. Along with a sense of gratitude the students were also reminded of the painful reality faced by countless North Korean defectors and displaced people who still cannot return to their homeland.



Buena Park Korean Church welcomed us with comfortable housing while church members shared their love through delicious meals and thoughtful snacks. In return, the HDS travelers expressed their heartfelt gratitude by offering a special song during the Sunday worship service.



We enjoyed a sentimental camping experience beneath a star-filled sky and the breathtaking night scenery of Joshua Tree National Park. As the sun set, we wrote poems about travel and shared our hearts, deepening our connection with one another.

Special Scenes from the Journey



While we enjoyed the vibrant cities and nature, the trip also included programs for inner growth. Each evening, the students gathered to write in their travel diaries. At first, they simply listed the places they visited, but as days passed, their entries began to reflect personal reflections and heartfelt emotions — a journey of self-discovery.



When one student fell ill, the foundation's chairman drove a long distance to bring rice porridge. When another student was unable to enter the baseball stadium, the director chose to stay outside with them until the end. A young volunteer even took time off work to serve as a driver for the trip. Through these acts of devotion and compassion from Christians who live out God's love, the students learned the true meaning of generosity, consideration, and service — passing on the love they themselves have received from God.



For students born in North Korea and China, a trip abroad was something they could never even dream of. Through this trip, the students gained a broader view of the world and discovered their own worth.

"I have received so many gifts from God. But is it right for me to keep them all to myself? As someone who has been blessed by God's grace, I wanted to pass that love on and share what I have experienced—that's why I

prepared this trip for you. When you return to your daily lives, think deeply about who you want to become, and do your best with what you've been given."

This was the message from the Foundation's Chairman on the last day of the trip. After spending thirteen dreamy days together, we pray that they will remember the love they have received, and as they walk their life's journey, live as God's children who find joy in sharing and giving.

The Next Generation Answering His Call

STORY 1 — Joint Worship of Good Shepherd Church Young Adult Ministry

Heavenly Dream School is carrying out the calling of missions in North Korea, together with those who are preparing for a Gospel-centered reunification. We can fulfill our mission of gathering co-laborers who will pray with compassion for the people of North Korea through unity with churches. Since 2023, HDS has partnered with Good Shepherd Church in hosting the “Unification Missions Week Joint Worship.” We are amazing at God’s grace for placing the school and the church as neighbors, worshiping with passion with one heart and one spirit. This year, we built a deeper union with the church’s “Next Generation” ministry. Through lectures and sermons, participants shared a vision for the coming era of unification, prayed fervently for the people of North Korea, and were awakened to respond to God’s calling towards North Korean missions.

#Young Adult Ministry Joint Worship

The joint services with the Young Adult Ministry were held over two weeks, on June 22 and 29. Teachers from HDS served as guest speakers during the Middle School, High School, and Combined Young Adult Worship Services, delivering powerful messages about North Korean ministry and the vision of Gospel-centered unification. Through the heartfelt and passionate lectures of teachers who have long served North Korean defectors — and therefore, the North Korean people — the students were challenged to face an important question: “Why should we pray for the people of North Korea?” Moved by God’s heart for them, the students resolved to step into the place of prayer, committing themselves to intercede for North Korea with renewed conviction.



“Dear beloved and precious next generation, please join us in prayer, with a heart of compassion, for the North Korean people and defectors who are still enduring great pain and hardship.”

Yoonhee Kang, Head of Research, during the High School Sunday Service



“We who know the joy of being born again believe that our faithful God will also give new life to the people of North Korea. Therefore, we must take the lead in preparing for unification that brings life, and in sharing the Gospel with North Korean defectors.”

Teacher Eunju Song, during the Middle School Sunday Service



“Let us carry in our hearts God’s desire for the salvation of the North Korean people, and now respond to His calling by stepping forward together on the path of North Korean missions.”

Teacher Hyejeong Kim, during the Combined Middle, High School Sunday Service

“May the youth dream the *dreams of Jesus* and see visions of the salvation of man.
May this nation carry the *Gospel* in one hand and *Love* in the other to every corner of the earth.”

Young Adults Joint Worship

The two communities of Good Shepherd Church Young Adults (GSCYA) and HDS joined their hearts together in preparing for the joint service. On June 29, during the Young Adults Service, Pastor Im Hyang-ja delivered God’s Word from Ezekiel 37:1–10. Through the message and prayer, the young generation was moved to embrace the 26 million people of North Korea, whom they had often forgotten, and made a firm commitment to take their place in prayer and intercession for them.



Be Alive: Breathe Life Upon the Dry Bones



HDS Graduate Video: “Please, Save Us.”



Special Song: “The Season of Christ”



HDS & GSCYA Ministry Team

STORY 2 — EUC25, “OUTSHINE”

English Unification Camp

This past July, the 15th English Unification Camp (EUC) was held at the Korean Peninsula Unification Future Center and ended with an overflow of blessings, through much prayer and dedicated service. Around 300 participants, including the next generation from both South and North backgrounds and staff members from 32 different countries, gathered together for five days and four nights of passionate worship and rich fellowship—a time more fervent than the midsummer heat itself.



“You are the *light* of the world.
A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.”

This year’s camp was held under the theme “OUTSHINE,” inspired by the message of Matthew 5:14.

“JESUS THE LIGHT,” the true Light who guides us and gives life in the midst of darkness;

“WE THE LIGHT,” those who reflect His light to brighten the world; and

“GLORY TO GOD,” lives that shine for His glory—

participants spent time discerning God’s will for this generation and rediscovering their clear identity as the light of the world through these three subthemes.



Unification Workshop



Unification Seminar



Game Workshop



Special Performance



Worship



Prayer

EUC25
Video



Students joined the camp for various reasons — to improve their English, to experience worship and fellowship — yet through small groups where they met students from North Korean backgrounds, as well as through the unification seminars and workshops, they came to understand God’s heart for the people of North Korea more deeply. Each year, the English Unification Camp (EUC) continues to grow richer and deeper in God’s grace. Even during preparations, we experienced God’s clear guidance — applications filled up quickly, and there was a noticeable increase in returning participants who had been blessed in previous camps. We are especially thankful that the camp was completed safely to the very end. We believe that through EUC, the next generation — who will live in the era of unification — is being raised up to see North Korea through God’s eyes and to prepare as His people for that day. All glory be to God, and we ask for your continued prayers for EUC26, which will be held next July.



God’s Dream. My Vision.

Wankyu Lee, Teacher

Although my time at Heavenly Dream has not been long, it is such a great joy to be in this place so dearly loved by God. I used to excitedly read the school newsletter from afar, and now, as a Heavenly Dream teacher, the thought of my own writing being published makes me nervous.

Draw Near to the Lord

I’m reminded of the days in college when I prayed with all my heart. Every night at 9 p.m., I gathered with friends of faith to worship and pray, and met God personally. As my relationship with the Lord deepened, a longing grew within me — a desire to be used by Him. One day, I attended a Daniel Prayer Meeting, where a North Korean human rights activist shared their testimony. They spoke about the hunger and pain of their days as a kkotjebi (a street orphan in North Korea), and how even now, people in the North are dying without ever hearing the Gospel. From that day on, I began to pray for North Korea. God poured into my heart a deep, grieving compassion for that land..

God’s Calling

At the church I was serving at the time, I joyfully took part of a monthly prayer meeting a for Gospel-centered unification. During one of those gatherings, God gave me a vision — “I will use you as a vessel for Gospel unification.” While praying before my teacher certification exam, God placed a strong burden on my heart for Heavenly Dream School, which I had first learned about through a Christian broadcasting program. I had never even met a North Korean defector before, so I didn’t understand why God was giving me this calling — but I chose to trust His good and perfect plan. After two years of waiting and refining, God, in His faithfulness, opened the way for me to join Heavenly Dream School.

No Life Without Grace

At Heavenly Dream School, I serve in several areas. First, I am responsible for the school’s accounts. Although I majored in mathematics and enjoy working with numbers, the numbers in accounting feel quite different, and at times, the responsibility can be overwhelming. Still, I am able to serve with gratitude because I am certain that this is the position God has entrusted to me. There is a sense of joy in knowing that I am part of the Lord’s work, and a quiet satisfaction in supporting the overall ministry of the school. Second, I teach physical education classes. Through futsal, badminton, and walks, I have precious opportunities to spend time with many of our students. I have loved sports since I was young, and being able to exercise

together with the students truly makes me happy. I cherish the moments when we go on walks and take in the beauty of nature, and share small, heartfelt conversations. Lastly, I serve in the dorms. I currently live with four students. At first, I was worried about whether I could get along well with children who grew up in such different environments, but my concerns didn’t last long. As we worshiped together and shared delicious meals, we quickly became close. There are times when difficult situations arise, I ask for His love and remind myself, “When God looks at me, I’m no different from these children.” By His grace, I can faithfully carry out the calling He has given me.



Leading Worship in College Ministry



Cambodia Mission Trip



With my beloved dorm students



Heavenly Dream Sports Club



Coaching shooting techniques in P.E.



With the EUC25 Game Workshop Leaders

Voyager

I wait in prayer and anticipation for the day when God opens the day of unification. In the place He has given me, I will faithfully carry out the work entrusted to me. I will embrace each soul He sends my way with love, doing my best so that they may be raised as God's people. Though I am inadequate, I will continue to see, feel, and learn more within the Heavenly Dream community. Believing that God will make me a watchman who boldly proclaims the Gospel in the era of unification, I will keep moving forward — one courageous step at a time.



Still being Beautifully Shaped Today

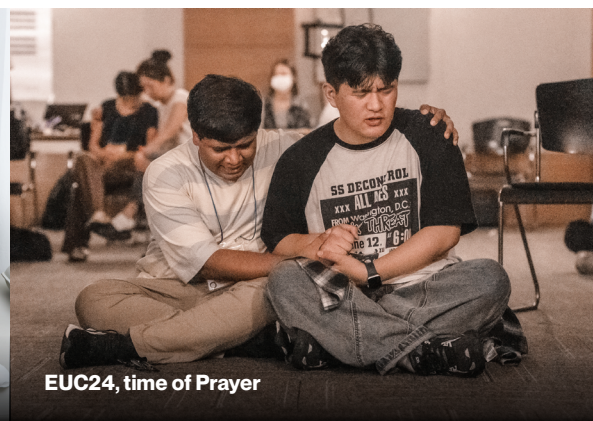
Eokchul Kang — HDS 19th Graduating Class, Junior, Visual Communication Design, Hongik University

in North Korea I was just an ordinary child. Every morning, I went to school, and at lunchtime, I played with my friends on the playground. Sitting at a desk for long hours was difficult, but running, playing soccer, and laughing until I was out of breath were my greatest joys. Back then, I was too young to know what the world beyond the border was like — how wide, how different it could be. I simply accepted the rules and patterns of life given to me in North Korea, believing that was all there was to the world. One day, I sensed even with my young heart, that something serious was happening from the heavy expressions on my parents' faces. When

I was thirteen years old, my younger sibling and I followed our parents on an escape from North Korea, without any explanation. I still remember my father's words vividly as we reached the Amnok River (Yalu River): "No matter how cold the water is, you must not make a sound." The moment my feet touched the icy water, my body flinched, but I clenched my teeth and endured in silence. After a long journey through China, Vietnam, and Laos, we finally boarded a plane bound for South Korea. Instead of fear, my heart was filled with excitement and hope. Looking out the window, the white clouds and the blue sky felt like a door opening into a new world.



Graduation Photos



EUC24, time of Prayer



Seoul Trip with Seomun Church



Graduate-Mentee, Cultural life with a student

in South Korea Contrary to my expectations, life in South Korea was a continual process of challenge and perseverance. After entering elementary school, I faced many difficulties adjusting to the unfamiliar environment. Because I was from North Korea, I was sometimes teased, and in the curious yet cold gazes directed at me, I felt deep wounds forming in my heart. I was filled with the thought that everyone must hate me.

But when I entered Heavenly Dream School as a middle school student, things began to change. There were many other students who had also come from North Korea, and that helped me adjust with a sense of stability and belonging. I attended school diligently for six years — from my first year of middle school through my senior year of high school. One memory that stands out is the English Unification Camp (EUC). Though I was excited about the camp, I was also anxious — “Will I be able to get along with others?” — and felt the burden

of having to communicate in English. As I feared, the camp ended without me having had a proper conversation with my teammates. That experience became the starting point of my English journey. I signed up for after-school tutoring, began learning basic vocabulary, and gradually gained confidence through steady effort. Before long, I was even able to have simple conversations with foreign volunteers who came to the school.

In 2023, I returned to the camp as a Heavenly Dream School graduate. My English wasn’t perfect, but this time, I could speak comfortably with the international participants. Heavenly Dream School had always provided an environment that helped me grow. The teachers saw my drawings and encouraged me, and even chose my design for a school postcard. And even when I acted out at times, they embraced me with love and patience. Through these experiences, the wounds I carried from my past slowly began to heal.



in New Zealand I was selected as one of the third group of Heavenly Dream School students to study abroad in New Zealand, and I began my life in Auckland this past August. I’m studying English diligently at a language institute and continuing to grow in faith within a healthy church community. Once, I couldn’t even freely leave my own neighborhood — but now, I find myself in a much wider world, meeting new people, communicating in English, and experiencing many different cultures. I am deeply grateful for this precious opportunity to broaden my horizons through the New Zealand language program. God’s plan for my life is closely bound to the school’s mission. The school sees us as future leaders of the unified Korea and helps us grow into that calling. When that day comes, I hope to return to North Korea and use design as a tool to introduce South Korean society to its people and help them enjoy the same freedom I have experienced. Through my artwork, I want to capture the freedom, growth, and possibility I’ve found here — breaking down prejudices about South Korea and planting in their hearts a dream for change. I believe that sometimes, the visual language of art can speak more deeply than words. Until that day arrives, I will keep learning, growing, and striving to become a person of depth. I sincerely hope that the path I have walked — and the one I will continue to walk — will become a source of courage and hope for others.

Lastly, I ask for your prayers that I may live safely and healthily here in New Zealand, and that in the stillness, I may draw closer to God.



You can check out Eokchol's story on YouTube. Search for “Heavenly Dream School”, or scan the QR Code.

I. Spiritual Foundation of HDS's education



II. Academic Raising Unification Leaders



III. Social & Health Healthy Body and Positive Minds



IV. North & South Integration Pre-experiencing Unification



From Prayer Letters to 1:1 Connections

2025 하늘꿈 캠페인
NK HUB, 두 번째 프로젝트



기도편지로 시작하는
1:1 결연



Read Prayer Letters
of North Korean
Background students



Apply for 1:1
Connections with
one of the students in the
Prayer Letters



- ✓ Please apply for a 1:1 sponsorship through the HDS KakaoTalk channel.
- ✓ Through a 1:1 sponsorship, you can pray for a student and support them financially.
- ✓ Once the sponsorship is confirmed, we will send you student's monthly updates and prayer requests.
- ✓ Join North Korea missions by partnering with HDS through a 1:1 sponsorship.

New English Homepage

We launched an English website for English speakers.
You can hear the latest news in English, and even make
donations with foreign accounts.



heavenlydream.org



Donor List

You can access the donor list in the school's website (www.hdschool.org) under the "Announcements" page.

Pray for us

- May HDS boldly move forward as it expands its borders for the mission of North Korean ministry and Gospel-centered unification, following God's good and perfect will.
- May all current students and graduates accept Jesus Christ as their Savior and be fully transformed into God's beloved children who live lives that are pleasing to Him.

Donor List
QR code



YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.
A TOWN BUILT ON A HILL
CANNOT BE HIDDEN.

MATTHEW 5:14

Become a part of the Heavenly Dream family

1. Heavenly Dream Friends (volunteers)

Kitchen volunteer, 1:1 Tutoring, Administrative volunteer, etc

(Apply through the HDS website. We provide a Certificate of Service upon request)

2. Giving

Regular giving (Education, Meals, Scholarships), Utilities Fund (Food, Clothing, Books, Toiletries, Electronics, etc), Special Day Donations

Donation Account: Kookmin Bank 331301-04-096542 사단법인 좋은씨앗

Address 11 Seongnam-daero 1518beon-gil, Seongnam-si, Gyeonggi-do

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HEAVENLY DREAM SCHOOL