

SUMMARY

OF CHRISTIAN HOMESCHOOL CONFERENCE IN NORWAY 2011

Blessings to all of you!

A Christian homeschool conference was held in Finsland, Norway, on 4 June 2011. Ten homeschooling families attended the conference. There were also guests and families interested in homeschooling. Totally there were 70 people including 36 children. God blessed this conference in many ways including weather, travel, organizing and other. The conference was held in two languages: Norwegian and English as attendees were originally from different countries although most living currently in Norway.



The conference started with the story for the children about the light – the light of the world. The children had an opportunity to look into a dark box. Then they had to choose a flashlight that would help them to see what was inside. They could choose between a big advanced one but with very weak batteries or a little one with strong light. The selection was obvious!



Then the invited speaker Lee Gabel talked about “God’s design for education”. Jorge Rodriguez translated him into Norwegian. The Gabel family is currently living in Kyiv, Ukraine where Lee represents the United States Army to the Ukrainian government and the military representatives of other embassies located in Ukraine. Lee and Anne Gabel met as students at the University of Minnesota. By God’s grace they became believers in Christ during their second year there. Lee studied Russian and International Relations. Anne studied Intercultural Communications and International Relations. They were married in 1985 in Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA.

God has blessed them with five children, three boys and two girls ages 21, 18, 16, 12, and 8. They began home schooling in 1994 praying that God would keep them from “ruining” their children. Their oldest son is a university student at a Christian university in the U.S. Lee’s career in the US Army has meant that the family has moved 13 times to live in such places as Hawaii, Washington, D.C., Great Britain, Germany, and Ukraine (three times).

Just before lunch Christian Forneberg gave a short talk “The impact of homeschooling” about his experience of a homeschool-graduate.



There was a very good fellowship during the lunch time when simple meal was provided (thanks to our precious wives Ina, Jelena, Cherryse and Anna). Everybody was together in very nice Finsland Bedehus facilities.



After lunch children could play together inside as well as outside, while the parents met for sharing experiences. The theme was “How did we get there?” Three families agreed to share their experience. It was very interesting to hear about different approaches with the same goal.

The conference ended in the late afternoon and it was difficult to leave as all families were hungry for fellowship. There was also a display of English schoolbooks by Christian Light Publication.

I pray that God will bless the next conference!

Gintas

I will be glad and rejoice in thee: I will sing praise to thy name, O thou most High.
Psalms 9:2