

(Germany) South Germany Spring Conference: "Longing for the Heavenly Kingdom" (By Reiner Schauwienold)

Report on Spring Conference 2025 of Heidelberg, Darmstadt 1 & 2 and Frankfurt 3.

I thank and praise God for blessing our Spring Conference, hearing many coworkers' prayers. It took place in Otterberg from May 9-11 with 75 attendants from four chapters. God blessed us with beautiful weather and the beautiful theme "Longing for the Heavenly Country". The opening message was held by H*ana Kim from Darmstadt 2 on Genesis 12. Even though she is writing her master thesis, she prepared her message from all her heart, rewriting it several times. We learned Abraham's obedience by faith, by which he left his home country and followed God to an unknown land, fully trusting in his promise. Afterwards M. Esther Cho from Washington UBF shared her life testimony, which moved our hearts and encouraged us.

On Saturday, we had group Bible study and heard the message of E*noch Ho*ng on Hebrews 11:8-16. Abraham understood the deep meaning of God's promise and his ultimate purpose. Therefore, he lived a simple life in tents as a stranger in this world, looking forward to the city with foundations and longing for the heavenly country and helped his son and his grandson to have such faith. In the afternoon we took time to meditate on their faith and shared our testimonies. In the evening, Dr. Ezra Cho from Washington gave an encouraging message on Genesis 26 with the title "Stay in this land" and a lecture on Christian diaspora. He challenged especially our young people to stay "in this land" and continue the work of their (spiritual) parents in spite of difficulties and experience God's hundredfold blessing. Three younger attendants shared their personal testimonies. Sh. Mar*ia M*azan from Kiev, who lives in Germany since three 3 years with her younger son, found deep comfort finding herself as a citizen of the heavenly land and renewing her faith in God's promise to make her a blessing even for Ukrainian refugees in Germany. Finally, E*lina Ki*m from Darmstadt 2 shared her life testimony based on 2 Corinthians 12:9. She confessed how faithfully God protected and guided her all her life and was baptized with blessing prayer of many servants. On Sunday we studied 1 Peter 1:1-9 and had worship service with the message entitled "A Living Hope" by R*einer. I thank God that we could learn the living hope in our eternal inheritance as our only hope and were encouraged to thank God for it in all circumstances, to live as holy strangers and royal priests and to help our neighbours, students and young

people to believe in God's promise in Jesus and join us on the way to the heavenly country.



