

Compelled To Go Compelled To Go

Issue #119
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Dear Friends, Family, and In-Pact Partners:

It has been a month since our last letter, and we are happy to say our Germany trip is more than we had hoped for. Even with a few "slow spots", God has done some amazing things. The links between people and work in the past and what God is doing here now is clearly a "God thing" from beginning to end. Because of so many photos in this letter, we are sending it ONLY as a PDF file. If you want it as a Word document to enlarge the pictures, send us a personal e-mail. You can also see them on Bob's Facebook Album page.

Because we've met so many amazing people & heard their stories, we're including lots of pictures to illustrate what has been happening. We keep wondering what might have happenned . . or Not happened . . if a young man in a Persian city had not shared a Bible with a 14 year old boy who was searching for spiritual answers to questions he had been asking since he was a young child. It is almost certain that we would not be here today . . . and hundreds of people would not know Jesus as their Savior and Master. So, here goes.







Above, Jo Ann & "F" stand in front of the house where we are staying. Owned by a missionary family serving in Kenya, it has two "flats" (apartments). Ours on the 2nd floor has two bedrooms & is fully furnished, including wireless internet shared with the older couple below who work with Campus Crusade. It sits on this street, just a 10 to 15 minute walk to the city center, filled with café's, shops & businesses. The other direction it's a 15 minute walk to "Lidl", a part of the Aldi international grocery chain. The Aldi's are believers.







We were thrilled to meet again with the Sunday afternoon Bible study group, and have now shared the story four consecutive Sundays, with five left. The group contains about 30% from last year, and 70% new people, some of whom have been in Germany just a few days or weeks.

This year, because there are several child-ren, Jo Ann teaches the kids a Bible story from a German children's Bible, demonstrating to parents and fut-ure leaders how to share the Gospel with children.

On the very first Sunday a young mother told "F" that she felt God wanted her to work with children. Following the Bible study and extensive prayer time, it's time for a meal and fellowship time before the group begins to break up and go back to their various camps and flats.







Since last year the Café Hope ministry has mushroomed with over 200 immigrants & refugees learning German & the Thursday nite Gospel presentation drawing 100 or more. An overwhelming number come from the Horn of Africa area, & more & more are arriving from Iraq & Syria. The two young men with Jo Ann (center) are from those two countries, & in Germany only two days.

Faronak (right) is a new believer & just received a new Bible. Married with two children, her Muslim husband returned to their home country, unhappy with her new faith. He will return after she gets her documents. Werner is a retired missionary who translates at Café Hope; he is also learning Farsi so he can help "F". He moved into the flat we used last year. Amir (standing) and Salo-meh (next to "F") were here last year. He is becoming a key leader in the Farsi group.







Bob spoke one night at Café Hope, & is scheduled for one or two more times. The guy pouring coffee (center) is a married aeronautical engineer, a recent believer constantly sharing the Gospel, encouraging & serving others. He will be a future key leader in the group. He already speaks German well. Jorge (far right) is another retired missionary who manages the operation of Café Hope & translates into Urdu & other languages. It's amazing how God has brought so many retired people & students to serve here.







We've already had a two-day leadership retreat & will have another one-day next Sat. It's amazing what Jo Ann can do in hospitality with such cramped facilities, but she prepared six meals in two days for this group. Almost every person in these pics has an amazing story of God's protection & ultimate salvation.