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“TT - EXTRA” - “WHY...?”

May we introduce you to ‘Mary Magdalene’?

Actually, that is not her name, but she chose this alias so that we could tell you her story, and also because this name is so closely associated with the resurrection of the Lord Jesus (John 20:11-18).

‘Mary’ is 66, originally from Vienna, now living in Burgenland. She was brought to a worship service in our



Forum Eisenstadt Church by one of our old acquaintances and after the service, I (Hans-Georg) gave her my calling card.

Soon after this first meeting, ‘Mary’ sent us a message on **WhatsApp** to the effect that she would like to visit our **home Bible study group**, which she began to attend regularly. Then, on Easter Sunday 2019, she again showed up at our **Easter Sunday Worship Service**. She was so touched by the cordial fellowship, the message of the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus and the joyful songs of love and devotion that she had to hide her tears behind a pair of sunglasses.

After the service, Margret talked with ‘Mary’ further, and spontaneously invited her to afternoon coffee at our flat. After ‘Mary’ arrived, we talked at length about her restless and difficult history: Her mother had barely survived imprisonment in a concentration camp, an experience that left her an alcoholic

who ‘Mary’ then visited regularly until she died. She never knew her father. The day the police, callously delivered the news that one of her two sons had been tragically killed in a car accident remains indelibly etched on her memory. The officers simply delivered the message and then left her alone in her grief and shock.

As ‘Mary’ has searched for love, recognition, and stability in her life, she has experienced one disappointment after the other with a succession of partners. Although her work with special-needs children gave her much joy, she has had to battle her way through life as a single mother, a situation that has left her empty and burned-out. Completely out of the blue (**this had never ever happened before!**) her son phoned her up right after the Easter Sunday Worship Service. She saw this as “a sign of God’s love”.

‘Mary’ repeatedly talked about the fact that in her entire life she had never heard this liberating message of Jesus’ love and the possibility of reconciliation through HIM with God.

At this point, we simply invited ‘Mary’ to come to Jesus and give her life to Him, which she clearly understood! She then committed her life into the hands of the Risen Lord.

We were able to proclaim forgiveness in Jesus’ name over her.

‘Indescribable’ is the joy that ‘Mary’ experienced on that Easter Day 2019 here in Eisenstadt, but we are sure, there was also much joy in heaven. And then ‘Mary’ asked this dreadful question:

‘WHY HASN’T ANYONE EVER TOLD ME THIS BEFORE?!?’ YES - WHY?

We are now praying that as ‘Mary’ takes her first steps of faith, she will become deeply rooted in Jesus.

She has asked that we, and you, pray that she will be able to leave her bitter past behind and be free to follow the Lord Jesus.

And while you are praying and reflecting, please think of us too! We are at the **Pioneers EuroConnect Conference in Portoroz (Slovenia)** with over three hundred fellow workers until 5th May.

While we are there, we **are meeting in person** most of those that we shall be looking after.

THANK YOU that we can share this joy with you – rejoice with us!

As our friends and prayer partners, you are very much involved with what is happening here!

Yours in His service,



Hans-Georg & Margret

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