

TT – Travelling Together (132)

„I believe. Help my unbelief!” Mark 9:24

The Family Hoprich Newsletter | September 2020

“In Christ God was reconciling the world to himself.” (2 Cor. 5:19) – GOD – and the world: the Greek word ‘to reconcile’ actually means ‘to exchange’. Therefore God takes part in an exchange! In Christ God takes our unreconciled state from us human beings, pronounces us free from it and grants us HIS peace. A reconciled relationship with HIM – **without an ‘expiry date’!** HE heals not only our relationship with HIM–SELF, but also with our fellow men! Reconciliation requires a lot: it means turning away from yourself, approaching the other person, not demanding your rights, apologizing and forgiving. It takes two to be reconciled; if you do it on your own, it doesn’t work. With forgiveness, yes, but not with reconciliation. In order for reconciliation to happen, the sinner has to act. **Everyone is called to accept this gift** by believing in Jesus and repenting! What is more, the task of making known the message of reconciliation is entrusted to us! Who else besides us can live a life of reconciling grace? Who else should pass it on to the world by word and lifestyle?

We need reconciliation with God!

Highlights from the ‘Rehab’ centre...

As we packed for our three-week stay at the centre, we had the idea of taking with us a selection of **50 pocket Bibles**. The idea came from our previous ‘rehab’ in early January 2018 when we gave away about 40 evangelistic ‘Life is More’ calendars to our fellow patients and to the staff who gladly accepted them. On this occasion, all the little Bibles found new owners! When we gave them to the staff, we said, **“You’ve done your best for us, now we would like to give you the best thing that we have!”** A man with severe diabetes had to leave the course early. He was sitting in a wheelchair, with an open wound at one foot, in the entrance hall looking very sad. We’d met him at lunchtimes on previous days. He was delighted with the Bible, our little ‘farewell’ gift, and he was grateful when we promised to pray for him. There was a young lady from Vienna who worked with the **‘Samaritans’** and we asked her if she knew where the word ‘Samaritan’ came from. She didn’t! The following morning we showed her the story of the **‘Good Samaritan’ (Lk 10:25–37)** and gave her our visiting card. She was moved when she read the Bible passage and it led to further good conversations... One of the staff in the psychological department had always wanted to read the Bible, but she didn’t have one at home. She was delighted with the **‘thank you’ gift!** On the day that we left, another employee was celebrating his birthday and the Bible came at the right time for him... Nearly every day during our stay we heard a number of dramatic life stories. As soon as our fellow patients realized that we were keen to listen, they poured out their heart to us. Often a lot of guilt and pain came to light... Away from their everyday lives, our fellow patients had a lot of time for reflection during the long evenings. We felt that it could be helpful to have a resident (**hospital–)counsellor** here and we mentioned it to the doctors and nurses treating us. We hope that they will take up this suggestion.

Our Pioneers Europe (PIEU) Team...

In recent weeks, our Zoom Team Meetings have only been attended in small numbers. Every Tuesday morning we come together for **a devotion, sharing and to pray** for one another and for our international co-workers. Our Team colleagues have been away on ministry or on holiday. It won’t be long before we will all be together again – even if only in ‘cyberspace’... We are in the process of finding out how each person in the Team **fits in best**, according to their gifts and abilities. In the past few months, our discussions have covered in some depth the subject of **team development**. We would be grateful if you could pray for our fellow workers throughout the world who often face **huge challenges**, including the pandemic. Many are stuck in the country where they are serving. Others have had to extend their home-assignments. Many are experiencing high levels of intercultural stress in their team situations, made worse by the **uncertainties of the Covid-19 situation**. **Six new candidates** are getting ready to go out to the countries where they will be serving. As a team, we are supporting, advising and encouraging them, and praying for them. Currently there are **over forty PIEU co-workers** from ten different European countries in ministry. They are serving on four different continents to bring the Good News to unreached ethnic groups.

Difficulties in making plans...

We had been expecting a visit from some dear friends from Germany, but the **Coronavirus situation** in the Vienna region **is getting worse**, and recently in the north of Burgenland too. Sadly the visit has had to be called off. Also it’s **with a heavy heart that we’ve had to postpone** our long-planned ministry and visits to our relatives and friends in southern Germany in early October...

THANK YOU, dear friends, for your replies to the Feedback Questionnaire, which we sent out with the last TT! In these uncertain times, we value it all the more to have faithful people, such as yourselves, who are so reliable in their support!

Yours in His service,

Hans-Georg & Margret

‘Prayercorner’

Praise God for...

- God’s great offer: reconciliation
- All the little Bibles: In new hands
- Being refreshed by the ‘rehab’
- You – our faithful ‘team members’

Please pray for...

- That we will live out reconciliation
- Fruit from conversations in ‘rehab’
- PIEU workers in stressful situations
- Difficult international discussions

What are you occupied with?

What would you like us to pray for?

Contact



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Thank you for receiving our prayer letter

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