

# TT – Travelling Together (148)

The Lord Jesus Christ says: “Whoever comes to me, I will never turn away.” John 6:37

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**Jesus Christ says, “Come and see!” John 1:39** – Three words, which can totally change lives! They changed the lives of the two followers of John the Baptist, and the lives of countless other people, right up to the present day, who have taken up this challenge. What you experience with Jesus, you cannot keep to yourself. Whoever follows HIM, will find that it has consequences and it will change their lives. When you grasp what kind of message Jesus is bringing, you cannot be just a bystander! **“Come and**

**see”**: It challenges you to leave your previous standpoint and start to change your **point of view**. Not just staring, but something more **mobile** and flexible. It is only then that we will experience how this **new way of seeing** will change people and relationships. Where there is a boundary and people say, “Well, that’s just the way things are!” Jesus crosses over and approaches those who have previously lived on the margins. The blind see, the lame walk, those thought to be dead come to life, the hungry are satisfied, outsiders find acceptance and those who have failed in life, those who are laden with guilt, get a fresh start. It takes courage to take up Jesus’s challenge to follow HIM and to open yourself up to the love of God and to trust HIM. To see God, to acknowledge HIM is something that only I can work out with HIM. At the end pious Job admits, **“My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you.”**



## Moving encounters

Within the space of few weeks during Advent and immediately after Christmas, we were asked by the same undertaker to take **two funerals**. In the first week of Advent, we met the bereaved to arrange the first funeral. It appeared to have been planned. Trust was built up very quickly. It was an **open and friendly** meeting, which came as a surprise to the relatives. They were very grateful for the **pocket Bibles** which we gave them. Interestingly they used them to look up the Bible passages and verses which they definitely

wanted to include in the service. What a surprise – **we have never had that happen before!** This burial service was a unique invitation to the congregation of mourners to find security in Jesus in living and in dying. Since each person has **dignity**, even in death, we always give thanks for a **life that had been wanted by God**. But of course, we do not pray for the deceased. The person’s life story was told in some detail, followed by a brief address inviting the hearers to faith in the risen Lord Jesus. We wanted to present Jesus to all those present as God’s Son who became a man and who longs for us to come to HIM! Yes, **we talk about Jesus**, our hope in death, and forgiveness of sins.

So we give a **heartfelt invitation** to come to the One who gives new life and peace! How we wish that this kind of funeral service will make people curious and that they will seek until they have found Him – the Redeemer!

We rejoice each time we have an opportunity like this.

“You are **very perceptive** and you are **good listeners!**” said the mourners as they took their leave after the service. Recently we were surprised when **Frau H.** phoned us up. We had taken the funeral of her partner in life last summer. Back then, we told her that she could get in touch with us anytime. It is great that she has **taken us up on our offer**, came along, and had coffee with us.



## “Can I deposit my will with you?”

In caring for our co-workers in a wide variety of places of service throughout the world, we experience special moments like this one! **S., our Austrian friend** of many years, asked us to take responsibility for her will. At the age of nearly fifty she is about to travel back out to a **closed land** in central Asia to serve as a horticultural expert (known worldwide for her expertise). She will be working with children with special needs with an organization run by nationals. A number of

years ago, we took the funeral of her father, the last of her close relatives. Her mother had died young. We are amazed at our colleague’s **wide-ranging gifts!** Among other things she writes children’s books reflecting their particular culture and language. – Last week our **Zoom / Skype / WhatsApp ‘travels’** have taken us to Mexico, France, Botswana, Belgium, Mauritius, Northern Ireland, Madagascar, Switzerland and South Asia.

The **range of subjects** and particular matters covered in our communications could not have been greater...

Here is a **selection of the things occupying our co-workers**: Theological questions, spiritual battles, culture shock, children’s problems with schooling, sickness, plans for returning to the mission field, partnership agreements, personality clashes, drug use in the areas near churches, getting to know each other...

Hopefully we will continue to be **flexible long enough** to be willing to take on these challenges, to deal with them positively and to be a help to our **precious co-workers**.

## We say THANK YOU!

God provides for us so faithfully and so lovingly – including THROUGH YOU! It is a great unearned gift. For that and for so much more, we cannot say “THANK YOU” enough!

Yours in HIS service, *Hans-Georg & Margret*

## Prayercorner

### Praise God for...

- “Come & see”: Such a gift!
- Encounters at funerals
- Great trust shown to us
- You: Our Mission Team

### Please pray for...

- Those grieving in your area
- Those who have heard the Gospel
- S.: A good start in central Asia
- Flexibility: Complex situations

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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