

"WHERE ARE THEY NOW?"

Because of the transient nature of the people we minister to, we often lose contact with the refugees the Lord brings across our path. Many times we wonder about how (or if) various individuals are still growing in the Lord. Recently,

I was talking with a friend (Tom) from Poland and he updated me on several mutual friends that we'd like to tell you about. But first an update on Tom...

TOM...Tom was an integral part of our ministry in Austria.

Much of his personal spiritual growth and ministry experience took place as he worked with us there in reaching refugees (especially Polish ones) for Jesus. Tom immigrated to Canada where he started a Polish fellowship with some other Polish refugees. Eventually he married one of our American co-workers (Anne Toles), and is now finishing up Bible school in Iowa with the intention of returning to Poland with his wife as church planters.

MIREK and BEATA...This young married couple came to the Lord through our ministry while sojourning through Austria several years ago. Later, they immigrated to Canada and helped Tom begin the Polish fellowship in Calgary. Mirek finished Bible school and has already begun producing and publishing a very fine and scholarly theological journal. They are also making preparations to return to Poland to minister alongside Tom and Anne (Tom predicts that in a few years Mirek will be one of the top theologians in Poland).

I still remember the first day that Mirek came to the Oasis...I was sweeping the sidewalk and he asked if I could help him make a phone call to Canada...the rest is history.

MARK and KASHA...This young married couple met Jesus after attending a Seeker's Weekend at our ministry in Austria. Mark is a skilled doctor who could easily be using his medical skills to make a lot of money. However, they have chosen to live a simple lifestyle in order to devote time and energy into advancing the kingdom of God. They have also become leaders in the Polish fellowship in Calgary, and Mark has written some articles in the theological journal.

TERESA (and her four children)...were Jehovah's Witnesses in Poland. In Austria, Teresa (and most of the children) came to know the Word of God in a way that transformed their minds and brought them into a living relationship with Jesus. They are currently living in Michigan, walking with Jesus and fervently sharing His love with others.

JULIAN...was also a Jehovah's Witness in Poland. After being born again and discipled in Austria he returned to Poland where he is active in an evangelical fellowship and growing in the Lord.

MARK, TOMMY, and DAVID...were three single guys, each one coming to Lord about the same time through our ministry in Austria. Each one was instrumental in helping found and lead the Polish Christian Fellowship of Vienna. Mark went on to join Operation Mobilization (a missions organization) for some years and is currently at Multnomah School of the Bible in Oregon. Tommy and David are both still in Vienna, active in leading the Polish fellowship there.

And lest you think only the Polish Christians have endured, here are a couple others...

IDAH...Idah was a Filipino girl who became an active part of our ministry in Athens. Sensing the call of God on her life, she joined the missions group Youth With A Mission and has been an active part of their ministry for over 2 years now.

GREGORY...we've mentioned Gregory many times before, but thought you'd like an update. As you remember, after Gregory came to Christ and was discipled by our team in Athens, the Lord called him back to minister to his own people in Albania. In addition to leading his parents and close friends to Jesus, he has planted a church in his home town, helped found a national organization for Albanian church planters, and has led many evangelistic outreaches in his hometown and in the mountain villages.

His parents have just completed an intensive 6 month discipleship training program that included a three month outreach in a remote city of 15,000. Both of his parents personally led people to faith in Jesus there (but especially his mother who seems to have been especially gifted in the area of evangelism). When their outreach team left the town, the first church EVER had been birthed there!!

(P.S....God may be opening the doors to allow Gregory the opportunity to spend a month in America. The time of the visit would be in February or March of 1995. The purpose(s) of the visit would be:

1) To take a much needed rest

- 2) To spend time with us
- 3) To share the vision of the Albanian Church Planters Mission, with churches and individuals, in order to raise more PRAYER SUPPORT

TWO THINGS ARE NECESSARY (on the human side) FOR THIS TO HAPPEN:

- A. Financial support for his round-trip ticket (about \$1300)
- B. A tourist visa from the American Embassy in Tirana, Albania (this would be largely dependent on documentation that the finances have been provided for his ticket and care while in the States).

If you sense the Lord leading you to help financially support this opportunity (**GREGORY DOES NOT KNOW THAT I AM INCLUDING THIS ANNOUNCEMENT IN OUR LETTER**), then please write a check (personal or bank, or money order) IN AMERICAN DOLLARS to the Christian Center Church (All gifts should be designated for The Albanian Pastors Fund , SPECIFICALLY MENTIONING **GREGOR MENGES NAME!**) and sent to...

CHRISTIAN CENTER CHURCH; 921 W. Mendenhall; Bozeman, MT 59715. U.S.A.

Any desire to send one-time gifts or monthly donations for the general work of his ministry should also be sent to the same address, with the same specifications).

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUESTS

* Kyle's first laser surgery went very well. He will have his next treatment on January 27th, and another one 2 months after that. He may need others but we don't know yet.

* We mentioned in our last letter about our Nigerian brother (Charity) who is trying to join our team. He is still having financial and visa problems. **PLEASE PRAY FOR HIM.**

* We are praising God for the time we are able to spend with our families. However, we really wish we could spend time with more of our friends and supporters too. Please pray that the Lord might work this out and also provide us with more speaking opportunities in order for us to increase our support team.

* Another Albanian woman (named Alma) recently came to the Lord in Athens after much prayer and witnessing on the part of our team there! Please pray for her continued growth.

* Good news and bad news...One of our team families in Athens is having to return to America because of severe financial problems. Please pray for the Carrolls. The good news is that Jennifer Roemhildt has just joined our team and will be focusing on ministry to Filipinos. Please pray for housing to be found for her and for her adjustment to life and ministry in Athens.

* We praise the Lord for His abundant provisions and we thank you for the investments that you have made in our ministry. We hope that you are as encouraged as we are by the updates in this letter. Fruitful ministry and global impact are made possible because of people like you who make eternal investments of prayers and finances for the advancement of God's kingdom.

We do appreciate and thank God for every one of you!

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