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strategic
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BECAUSE EVERY NATION NEEDS TO KNOW HIM

Learning Deutsch: Becoming Like a Child Again

Dear SGI Partners,

These last few months have been wonderfully busy—filled with new experiences, challenges, journeys, faith steps, and of course, meetings with new people all the time. Imagine what would life look like if you had to re-learn every word in your vocabulary to be able to speak again. So many questions might come to mind: How long would it take? Where do I start? Will I find people that will let me speak to them in their language with my horrible grammar?!? This is exactly where we are at right now; you can feel like you are making tremendous progress until a 5 year-old comes and says something to you—and you did not understand one word☺ Ahhh.. Good times!

We are in the throes of learning how to communicate again: one word at a time! Not only to be able shop at the store around the corner but moreover, to be able to communicate the most beautiful story ever—God’s relentless redemptive love to a lost world. Amidst this process, we must allow ourselves to become like little children again. In speaking ridiculously simple sentences, we find ourselves stumbling, mispronouncing, and forgetting words—not to mention, Swahili popping out every now and then (our first second-language)...oops! In this context, God somehow uses us—and that is one of the constant reminders that this is His mission. This is His-story and His land and His people. Germany ultimately belongs to Christ, and we are here at this time to see the cause of Christ advanced, the name of Christ exalted, and lives deeply impacted and transformed by His love, power, and grace.

Without being able to communicate in German (Deutsch), this would all be difficult. It is true that many Germans (not all though) do speak some English; regardless, it is not their mother tongue—the language of the soul and heart. People want to hear stories and dream in their own language, and God wants to inspire and touch the heart through the language in which the heart dreams. We are learning their heart language -- one day, one conversation, and one language class at a time. In the future, we desire, by God’s grace, to communicate the love of God in such a way that speaks to the Germans’ soul. For now, we still have to become like little children. Yet, what was “good morning” and “what is your name” a few months ago, has progressed to more in-depth conversation. We are not there yet, but keep praying; we are passionate about proclaiming the Gospel directly to the soul in the language of their heart of the German people.



While acculturating, we have been attending regularly a Pentecostal church called Agape. The church and Pastor have been very welcoming and have given us a place to practice our German, connect, and a place to call “Home Base” for our children. They also graciously helped us attain our residence status, which was a major answer to prayer!! We are praying about working with their denomination more significantly in the coming days.

Pictured below is Abigail participating in a German song on a Sunday morning with the other kids from the church.



The Kids have begun a New Year in German School



The children have resettled into their German Kindergarten after a month break in August. Abigail in particular is picking up some language and enjoying making friends. Nate struggles somewhat with communicating in German

and playing with the other kids, but we thank God that he has Abigail in his class. He is so social it is not easy on him to be unable to talk to the other kids. We know God will give him grace. Please continue to pray for their language acquisition and social development here. Our kids' acculturation is so important to us as this will be their HOME. Graciously, this school has allowed for our kids to have spots for the whole year- even when we move! It's a tremendous blessing to know that we have schooling for them until next summer.

New Church Plants Needed!!

Increasingly, we are convinced that not only is the **potential** harvest great here, but the **present harvest** is great! In August, I had the privilege of attending a conference of innovative and passionate church planters from around Europe. Hearing their stories and being an observer of what is happening

currently in Europe has convinced me that **the container for the present harvest in Europe IS the mobilization of hundreds and thousands of new Spirit-filled, missional, and Gospel centered churches.** These

churches will be on the forefront to reap, disciple, mobilize, and send. **Gospel Tribe** is a ministry that is based in Karlsruhe, and they are sending a team to support a new church plant launched in East Germany. Gernot, the leader of *Gospel Tribe*, asked me to help do some training before the team leaves. It has been a real joy to partner together with them in this project. Brian will be working with the team to the end of December. We continue to pray which city we want to be our focus for mobilization for new church plants. **We are planning on staying in Karlsruhe for approximately another 8 months to continue to focus on language learning, networking, acculturation, and prayer for the steps ahead.**



Online giving is available through our website: www.globalimpact.tv.

We are sure you've noticed, but we have only sent paper newsletters out every 3 months since arriving. We hope to get them out more regularly in the future.

You can always send your Monthly Pledges/Support via our website or to our Correspondence Address.

Thank you for the partnership in the Gospel for Germany and Europe!

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Being in Germany has pushed us outdoors. The children ride bikes to school every day. Brian and I take the city train with Gabriel to our Deutsch courses. **We are walking,**

biking, and strolling wherever we want to go (grocery shopping, etc). As the cold weather hits, this will be particularly interesting for us Americans. But we are

determined to do as the Germans do. So we are bundling up and going out and trying to live as the German people Live.



Please Stand with us in Prayer:

1. **We need a new apartment in Karlsruhe till July, preferably fully furnished. Pray for the right place to open up by January.**
2. **We continue to ask the Lord what is the right city in which we should base the ministry. Our desire is that our next major move—when we leave Karlsruhe—would be to the location where we establish our base.**
3. **We need to find the right vehicle.**
4. **We need the government to approve our Integration Course, which means that Government will pay for our language studies.**
5. **Health and language acquisition for all the Weavers!!**

We love you and thank you!
Brian, Janine, Abbie, Nate, and Gabe

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