

AUSTRIA

for Jesus

JANUARY 2009

bread of life bible fellowship

NEW YEAR - NEW OPPORTUNITIES!

Dear Team,

Come on; you have to be excited about the times in which we live! Israel needs a Savior, people are searching for answers as their lives are being shaken, and Jesus is coming back, Opportunities are plentiful... and God is counting on us to share the GOOD NEWS.

Lately, more and more Austrians have been opening up their lives to the Gospel. If you have ever visited Austria, you may have noticed that the people haven't won very many "friendly" awards. Trust me, it isn't because they don't want to be friendly; it is just their culture. Most are very private people, and they just do not talk about their "inside life." Once you get to know them, they are very honest, quite sincere and warm hearted. It takes time and a lot of bridge building to help them feel safe enough to open up. In order to help them along, I just openly share about my life. This seems to disarm them and give them courage to admit some of their struggles. Once they learn that there is hope and God really has answers, they want to know more.

The other day I met a lady who had just lost her best friend to cancer. She couldn't understand why God didn't answer her prayers. "How God could take her away like that?" she asked. After talking awhile, I learned the friend had been a believer. So I asked, "Why are you so sure that God did not answer your prayers?" After talking about heaven and God's ultimate plan for our lives, she began to understand that God had given her friend HIS very best by taking her to heaven. She was interested to hear more about Jesus and now wants to attend the Bible study. Please continue praying for God to bring us more people who are open to hear about Jesus.

Each year Jerry Jacoby comes to do the spiritual emphasis week at Vienna Christian School. This year Monika has booked him to speak at her public school. Want to see how God works? There was a surprise inspection by the

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1. Christmas with Monika's family
2. New Year celebration with believers in Millstadt, Austria
3. Monika - "ice princess"

school district at Monika's school, and the principal began bragging about Mr. Jacoby coming from America to share, and the inspector asked if she could attend and suggested that in the future he could speak at all the bi-lingual schools. Please pray that God would give Mr. Jacoby special wisdom on how to share that day.

Monika and I took three days off and went to visit some friends in the mountains. That trip gave us fellowship, change of scenery, and some beautiful pictures. Thank you for participating in BOLBF. God is doing a beautiful thing in Austria!

- the *Pantons*

PRAYER REQUESTS

- a location for new Bible study in Vienna
- direction for ministry this next year
- need a worship leader
- video equipment for youth ministry
- direction for Monika's teaching
- leadership class
- refreshing for Danny... (return to first love)
- God's encouragement for Robert & Monika
- encouragement and wisdom for David & Anne
- growth for people in our fellowship
- salvation - Roland, Andrea, Feri, Zsuzsa, Rupert, Ilse, Werner
- outreach with Jerry Jacoby at Monika's school

