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Missionaries in Germany

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But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.
(Acts 6:4 KJV)

ESTHER IS WITH THE LORD!...She was the “Martha” of our Church! She was the one who decorated, cooked and cleaned. At times others helped, but she was the one we could always depend on. Through the years she learned to sit at Jesus feet and learn from Him. Before we got our first building, we were meeting three times a week in three separate homes of our members. Esther was often in every meeting. In 2001 we began searching for men to become deacons in our Church in Nürnberg. Esther’s husband Mike was asked to pray about becoming one of our first deacons. The Church watched this couple for one year and then gave their 100% vote for Mike to be ordained. In November 2002, Mike was one of the two Gypsy men ordained as deacons in the Nürnberg Baptist Church. In the 700 year history of Gypsies in Germany, these were the first two Gypsy men to become deacons in a local Baptist Church. Esther and Mike were faithful in serving our Lord by serving His church. Even when the cancer kept Esther from decorating, cooking, cleaning and attending church, she encouraged her husband to stay faithful in his duties. In addition to his duties in our church in Nürnberg, Mike is working with the team that is building a local church in Bamberg. Esther encouraged him every week to be faithful in his service. Mike served his wife in her time of sickness and death. He was by her bed when she went “home” and he continues to be faithful to his Lord! This couple is one of our very first examples of the Gospel changing a culture.

BIBLE INSTITUTE NÜRNBERG...We started in October with the “faithful few” and kept things going even though every week we had at least one funeral. (When we have a funeral, everything stops because the Gypsies are really one big family.) In November, after Esther’s funeral, we held a Men’s retreat. Our Lord worked in the hearts of the men present. After the retreat, regular attendance to classes more than doubled. These men are still faithful!

BIBLE INSTITUTE NEUNKIRCHEN...The goal for the next 12 months is to get the Church ready for the first ordination of preachers and deacons! We have some good, godly men who have shown through service that they have the gifts and calling. Three of the men are not yet 40 years old. This is young for Gypsies and is another example of the gospel changing a culture.

PRAYER...We need a place to meet with the believers in Bayreuth. The heater broke in the building where we rented a room. Even after it is repaired, it is not clear whether we can stay in the room. Please pray for the man who does all our organization work for Bayreuth, Peter. He is facing another operation in 2014.

TEENS!...Even though we have a “closed community” the Gypsy teens have all the needs of teens in the USA. We need prayer for our teens!

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