



The Norton Family

Missionaries to SLOVENIA



November/December 2017

Dear Friends and Family,

As we consider 2017 we must ultimately thank God for His goodness. We have received the reprinted 1584 Slovenian New Testament and the opportunity to place it into hundreds of hands and homes. We have been given a great Slovenian tutor, Erika. We have witnessed God's power to bring Edward's wife, Luz, from the Philippines despite two years of government obstacles, their spiritual growth as they adjust to their new life together and God's healing for Luz's physical needs. At home there has been His support for the homeschooling of 4 of our children and the encouragement of others in our time of discouragement. For all these things and more we are grateful to our loving LORD.

December offers a very special time to spread the Gospel. Slovenia has several holidays this season that mainly center on family, friends and general togetherness. Like most countries, it is a time of good will. As we carol from house to house in our village, giving out homemade jams and the New Testament, people are very accepting of this American tradition. Some misunderstand and offer us money which we happily decline and give them our gifts instead. Many have and will (for we have not yet finished the task) invite us in for tea and cookies. It is during these times that we are building relationships by asking and answering the many questions they have for us as foreigners while we also get a chance to use our Slovenian. We are encourage at our progress but challenged to learn more in order to speak about spiritual topics. Pray for us to follow God's leading as we continue to work with these families this year.

The day after Christmas we hosted Mateja (Ma-TAY-ya) and Jurnej (YER-nay) until midnight. Mateja was our second language helper in 2015 and she needed a job. We told her we would pray for her and God did give her a good job for Slovenian standards. She and Jurnej had Thanksgiving dinner with us that year as we explained that every good gift cometh down from above. We just "happen" to meet her on the streets of Slovenian's second largest city, Maribor, the following year at Christmas. The Slovenians are a bit superstitious and this certainly impacted her. After not seeing her for months we texted her "birthday wishes" two weeks ago and she asked to come over. She is 31 and he is 33. They are not married and have been living together on the weekends at either her parents or his parents for the last 6+ years. As they shared with us their disappointments we shared with them what God has done for us. Little by little the light is beginning to shine in their hearts and they are coming to the first point of Hebrews 11:6 "for he that cometh to God must believe that He is". Most Europeans are bound in the chains of doubt and disbelief. They cannot even begin to receive the Gospel until they accept the existence of God. Please pray that God would use us to break the bonds of Satan here in Slovenian.



May God grant you great liberty this year as you serve Him,

The Norton Family

Daniel, Christina, Abigail, Gideon, Lydia, Priscilla and Ezekiel Norton

"...for there is no restraint to the LORD to save by many or by few."
I Samuel 14:6

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Daniel - Birthday July 11, 1968
Christina - Birthday April 17, 1973
Abigail - Birthday March 27, 2003
Gideon - Birthday April 1, 2007
Lydia - Birthday August 11, 2009
Priscilla - Birthday July 9, 2011
Anniversary - July 13, 2001



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