



The Norton Family

Missionaries to SLOVENIA

July/August 2018

Dear Friends and Family,

As always the summer has been too short with much still to be accomplished. Looking back, our summer falls into three areas: a time of encouragement, a time of new beginnings, and a time of opportunity.

We all need a time of encouragement. Often it comes from unexpected places. In July, Macedonia had planned a gathering in Germany of all its missionaries in Europe. Since this was a first, we were not sure what to expect. However, we were very encouraged to meet the other missionaries and listen to what God was doing through them. Some are in well-established ministries complete with buildings and congregations while others are just starting to establish a church. Still others are faithfully proclaiming the Gospel at every opportunity in language school. All are trusting God and encouraging others to do the same. Praise God! Let us go on trusting Him for another day.

A time of encouragement often leads to a time of new beginnings. I am glad God is a God of new beginnings even when we find ourselves discouraged. God is always willing for us to start again the things He has called us to do. Our time of encouragement has led to a fresh vision for prayer, for the Word, and the lost. We hope to have good news from the ideas that God is developing in our hearts. Our time of new beginnings has led to the encouragement of Edward in Trieste and his desire to once again move forward after the hard, dry summer. Another new beginning is the children's education. With Ezekiel now joining our band of merry learners we definitely needed encouragement to begin the new school year. Praise God for new beginnings and another day to serve Him.

The time of new beginnings has led to a time of opportunities to share the Gospel. There have been several that stand out as I review the last two months. First, there was a 70-year-old Slovenian-American who has lived in California for 50 years and comes back regularly to visit his family. We did not have long to talk but there was an opportunity. Then there was a young man at the car wash with whom we had an opportunity to talk to about the Lord twice and once to give tracts and a Bible. Then we spent some time talking with our home insurance agent who had never heard much about the Bible because his family had been against "Christians" (Catholics). He said he would take the time to read the Bible and tract we gave him and he asked us to visit him and his family mid-September. I want to close this letter with a special opportunity I had just the other day to witness to Edward's parents. We (Edward translating) spent about an hour sharing the plan of salvation and answering their questions. This is not the first time Christina or I have witnessed to them but each time we find they are more open. They are in their eighties now and our hearts are burdened for them. Please pray for Mama Lana and Papa Giorgio.

We are not looking at past accomplishments but to future ones where God will do even greater works with our life. Each day we desire the encouragement of God, a new beginning, and an opportunity to share the Gospel with others.

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



"...for there is no restraint to the LORD to save by many or by few."
1 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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