



# The Shirkmans

Jordan, Niki, Raegan, Everett, Griffin & Adler  
Cru | Ljubljana, Slovenia

March 27, 2023

**We weren't sure if Matej (muh-TAY) was still alive.** Then, on March 7 at 9:30 P.M., our teammate Jay's phone rang and the name "Matej" appeared on the screen. We met Matej in May 2022, and God was working in his heart in great ways. He was lonely, hurting, and searching for answers. It felt like the Lord brought us to him at just the right time. Our team continued to meet with Matej and he was reading and applying the Bible to his life.

Sadly in the fall, Matej's mental health took a downward turn. He said he was considering ending his life and had a plan to do so. Our team got in touch with a social worker who recommended calling the police. The social worker said, "You might lose a friend, but you will probably save his life." Unfortunately, Matej refused to talk with the police and left abruptly, telling Jay and Justin that he never wanted to see them again.

"I wanted to call and apologize for how I treated you guys in the fall. Recently, I was thinking about how I wanted to get closer to God and how to pray, and I thought, 'I don't want to go to a church to learn these things, but I know some Christians who can help me.' Could we meet soon to talk more?" Matej said to Jay when he called.

Justin and Jay met with Matej that week. He admitted he'd tried to take his life twice since they'd last seen him, but they could tell his heart was now once again open to God. As they read the Bible, Matej shared in incredible detail about verses they had read together last year. At the end of their time together, Matej prayed that Jesus would continue to come near to him and help him grow.

Jay told him, "It seems clear that God has been protecting you and caring for you, even when you didn't realize it. He's saved you from taking your own life, and he's drawing near to you even now."

We praise God for how he has protected Matej and sustained his life during great hardship. We pray the Lord would continue to draw near to Matej and that he would become a follower of Jesus who helps others find the hope that Christ alone offers.

*Jordan + Niki*



*Spring has arrived in Slovenia!  
Above: Raegan (7.5), Griffin (3.5), and  
Everett (5) smile during our hike.*

*Below: Adler (1.5) loves hiking too.  
We're grateful for the warmer weather  
and how God is on the move in Slovenia.*



## Prayers + Praises

Praise the Lord for keeping Matej safe and for how he is at work in his life. Pray the Lord would continue to draw Matej to himself and that he would become a faithful follower of Jesus.

Pray for the Lord to continue to give us divine appointments and for us to be able to meet the people whose lives he is already working in.

Pray for those we're discipling to catch a vision for making disciples and helping those around them meet and follow Jesus.

## Contact Us

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