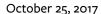


## Jordan & Niki Shirkman

Cru | Ljubljana, Slovenia



It's exciting when a non-Christian decides to come to a Bible study for the first time. It's amazing when that person never misses a week.

At the beginning of October, we launched our new weekly Bible study called Skup, short for together or community (pronounced like "scoop" in English). We gather together to have fun, study the Bible, and be challenged to take steps of faith. It's intended for Christians, but everyone is welcome. Matic (MUH-tee-ts), a non-Christian, has faithfully attended every single week, and it is obvious the Lord is at work in his heart.

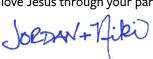
Matic is wrestling with tough philosophical questions like "How can a loving God send people to hell? At what point do people receive souls? What does it mean to have faith?" It's been such an encouragement (and a challenge!) to help Matic consider these questions in light of what the Bible says. He's open and teachable and is seriously considering who Jesus is and what following him would mean for his life.

One of our biggest challenges has been helping Slovenes develop friendships with one another. Last week Matevž (mah-TAY-eww-SHH), a second-year Christian student, invited Matic to grab a burger together after Skup. They didn't know each other last month, yet now a friendship is beginning. This is no small miracle in Slovenia.

Students have been inviting their friends to join us to study the Bible together, and it has been incredible to see how God has been at work. Non-Christian students are experiencing Christian community and seeing the love of Christ firsthand. We're praying new friendships would continue to blossom between students, and that they would link arms with one another as they trust God to reach their friends, classmates, and families with the message of Jesus.

We praise God for the genuine community that is forming among the students at Skup. It's been a joy to see new faces each week and a delight to welcome back students who have faithfully attended every meeting. Pray that more and more students would continue to join us to study God's word, grow in our love for the Lord and in relationships with one another, and continue taking steps of faith to see their country transformed by the love of Christ.

Trusting the Lord for a movement of disciple-making students who love Jesus through your partnership,





Here are pictures from our first Skup meeting. Matic is in the top left of the photo in the burgundy shirt. Matevž is the student wearing glasses on the right.

We had a dozen students from four countries join us!



## **Prayers**

- o Pray Matic would place his faith in Christ. Pray he would continue to join us for Skup each week and keep growing in his understanding of the gospel.
- o Pray for Niki as she has been experiencing a lot of pain related to pregnancy over the last month. Please pray for comfort, relief and rest in this last trimester.

## **Praise**

- o Praise God for the students who have come to Skup and how they are growing in their faith.
- o Praise the Lord for students like Matic and Matevž who have been faithfully attending Skup each week.