The Shirkmans

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

September 27, 2019

"I have some questions I'd like to ask you before I leave," Matevž sent me (Jordan) in a message. He has been connected to our ministry for the last three years, and after finishing his undergraduate degree in Chemistry, he is heading to the Netherlands to start a master's degree.

Matevž grew up in a nominally religious home, but it wasn't until he met our teammate Justin that he seriously began to consider what he believed. Over the years his interest and commitment to truly following Jesus has ebbed and flowed, but he has continued to spend time with us and open up about his life and struggles. In our last conversation I asked him, "So where are you at in your faith?" He told me that he wanted to continue growing and to be faithful to the Lord as he moves abroad.

Matevž and I met together just days before his departure to the Netherlands, a new country where he doesn't know anyone. As we strolled through a nearby park, he rattled off question after question: "What has convinced you personally that Christianity is true? Why is it important to marry someone who is also a Christian? Why do we pray if God is sovereign?" I shared my perspective, relevant Bible passages, and other books that helped me wrestle with those questions as I did my best to keep up with everything he was asking.

As our time together concluded, I prayed with him for the Lord to meet his needs as he left his home, for Christian community, and for God to use him to bring others to faith in Christ. Our time together reminded me that all people have these questions swirling around in their heads and hearts, wondering if there is really a God who loves them, what life is all about, and if we were meant for more. As the university year begins October 1, thousands of students will head to Ljubljana for the first time to start their studies. Our team is prayerfully and excitedly preparing for students to arrive as we strive to give them opportunities to follow Jesus.

Reaching and equipping students for Christ in Slovenia,



Matevž and I snapped one last picture together before he left for the Netherlands.

Prayers + Praises

Pray for Matevž to walk closely with Jesus in his new life in the Netherlands. Pray he would grow in his faith, point others around him to Jesus, and be actively involved in Christian community.

Pray for the start of the university year on October 1. Pray our team would be able to meet hundreds of first-year students and give them a chance to know God personally.

Pray for the returning students whom we've met over the years to be excited to meet together again and to continue to take steps of faith to reach their friends, classmates, and families with the gospel.