



The Shirkmans

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

January 28, 2019

I would have never guessed Jan (YAH-n) would be interested in exploring Jesus and his teachings. But God was up to something.

Jan is a first-year student studying psychology from a small village in Slovenia. He's quiet, kind, and hasn't considered his spiritual beliefs much. He grew up in a culturally religious home, but for the last few years he hasn't thought much about faith.

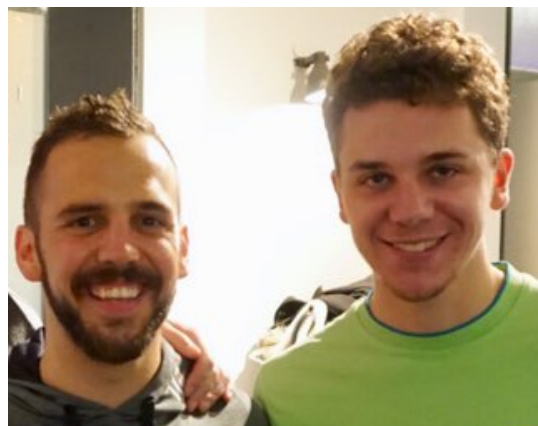
My teammate Michael and I (Jordan) met Jan through our student surveys in the fall, and Jan said he was interested in our personal development program. After helping him create a plan for his own personal growth, we asked Jan if he would be interested in knowing how our faith in Jesus impacts personal development, our character, and our beliefs and values. He was eager to hear more, and we embarked on a six-week study of core passages of the Bible that explain who God is, our sin, who Jesus is and what he's done for us, and what it means to truly follow Christ.

"If God created everything, it makes sense that he gets to make the rules. If God made everything, he knows what's best and his way of life is the best for us," Jan said after one of our times studying the Bible together. I was amazed to hear Jan so clearly articulate this truth. Our times studying the Bible together have been rich and lively, and it is obvious that the Lord is working in his heart.

After our most recent meeting, Jan admitted that he intellectually believes that Jesus is God and died for his sins, but he isn't ready to place his faith in Christ. Would you pray that Jan would see that life with Jesus is the only true life and our only hope of eternity with God? Jan is on the cusp of belief, and in an especially spiritually dark place like Slovenia, he desperately needs faith to believe. We are so grateful for your prayers for him and for us.

Helping reach students like Jan with the message of Jesus through your partnership,

Jordan + Niki



Jordan and Jan smile together at our Ohio State-Michigan football watch party in the fall.

Another baby on the way!

We're thrilled to let you know that Niki is pregnant and we're expecting our next child near the end of June! We are truly grateful for this gift of life. We're planning on having the baby here in Slovenia, just as we did with Raegan and Everett.

Prayers + Praises

- o Pray God would continue to open Jan's eyes and that he would give Jan the faith to fully trust in and follow Jesus.
- o Praise God for the gift of another child on the way for our family! Please continue to pray for a healthy pregnancy, safe delivery, and for our adjustment as a family.

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