

The Shirkmans Jordan, Niki, Raegan, Everett & Griffin

Cru | Ljubljana, Slovenia

April 27, 2020

"I plan to explore faith. If so many people believe, there has to be something to it," Kristan (CREE-stahn) told me (Jordan) during our second meeting together online. Kristan signed up for Speakout Sessions, our free English conversation practice for high school students. SpeakOut Sessions give us an opportunity to help students with a felt need of practicing their English with a native speaker, while also exposing them to a variety of deeper topics to engage with us in such as faith, purpose, family, culture, and relationships.

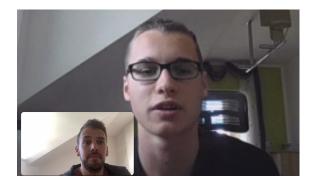
Kristan found the signup for our free program through Instagram and he was eager to meet. We met three times in the span of two weeks, and he even joined us for our Digital English Club that nearly 20 students from around the country participated in at our last meeting. While moving all of our ministry online has had some challenges, it has also opened up doors for meeting with students who are geographically too far to meet with in person, like Kristan who lives over 100 miles away.

Meeting with him over the last few weeks has been an absolute pleasure. It's evident that he's really thinking about faith and purpose, and I'm hopeful that he'll soon be willing to meet to read the Bible. While he said he wasn't ready for that yet, I'm certain that we'll continue to interact. In the fall he's planning on attending university in Ljubljana, where we live, which will provide more opportunities to come alongside him and expose him to the person of Jesus.

When I asked Kristan what words came to mind when he heard the word "faith," he said, "Happy, calm and God." He went on to say that, "Faith teaches you to be happy with what you have and religious people seem calm." It's clear that he notices that true faith can play a vital role in leading to peace and joy. We're praying that God would continue to open Kristan's eyes and heart to the truth of Jesus and the hope of eternal life.

Helping reach students across Slovenia through your partnership,

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A screenshot of Jordan and Kristan meeting online and discussing significant themes together via our program SpeakOut Sessions.

## Prayers + Praises

Pray that the Lord would continue to work in Kristan's heart and give him a desire to truly follow Jesus. Pray he would soon be open to reading the Bible with Jordan.

Praise God that we have been able to continue meeting with students online and continuing to see the Lord at work as students take steps of faith.

Praise God for his protection of our team, students, and Slovenia in general amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. The country is starting to slowly reopen and we are looking forward to more normalcy, whenever that may come.

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