Jordan & Niki Shirkman

Cru | Ljubljana, Slovenia



"It will take a lot of work, but I think we can do it," Jernej told me (Jordan) as I shared with him about our vision of reaching his university for Christ. Jernej is a Christian and first-year student at the University of Maribor-Slovenia's second largest university where we recently launched a student movement in an effort to reach the 25,000 students there with the gospel.

A few weeks ago, we had a group of 11 students and Cru staff from Ohio State here to help us launch this new movement in Maribor, a city about 90 miles from our home in Ljubljana. Over four days we talked to 1,500 students in a search for committed Christians who want to help others know Jesus.

From those 1,500 students, we found a core group of five students who joined us for a kickoff meeting and time of vision casting. In a spiritually dark place like Slovenia, we were thrilled to find students whose hearts God had already prepared. We invited them to be a part of reaching others with the message of Jesus and investing their lives for God's kingdom.

Since that time, we've been coaching the students in walking with the Lord, sharing the gospel with their friends and peers, inviting others who are already believers to join this movement, and praying for God to continue to transform hearts. David, a thirdyear student studying informatics, was at the kickoff meeting and has been taking steps of faith as we have encouraged, prayed for, and challenged him and the others.

David told us that his vision for the University of Maribor is a better tomorrow, where students know the Lord and one another and have deep friendships that enable them to grow in their faith together. He has taken the lead in organizing the group for weekly prayer and training, and he's gone above and beyond to be faithful to the Lord and helping reach others.

Students like Jernej and David have encouraged us greatly as we trust God with taking the gospel to the nearly 100,000 university students across Slovenia. There's a lot of work to be done, but God is faithful, and we believe students surrendered to him and his will are certain to make a tremendous impact for eternity.

Reaching students across Slovenia for Christ through your partnership,



David and Vasia, two students involved in the movement in Maribor, writing their vision of what they're trusting God for during our kickoff meeting.

Prayers

- o Pray for the movement in Maribor to continue to grow. Pray students would mature in their faith and that the Lord would expand their hearts for making disciples.
- o Pray for the Summer Mission with over 35 students from the States joining us next month. Pray for God to provide all they need to join us here and that he'd use them in significant ways.

Praise

o Praise God for Jernej, David, and the movement in Maribor. We're so grateful to be a part of reaching another university with the gospel.

We'll be visiting the US this summer!

We'd love to reconnect with you, hear how you're doing, and enjoy a mini-reunion. We'll send more details soon, but July will be the time that's best for us to see you. We hope to see you then!

