

FOR GOD SO LOVED THE GERMANS
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GERMANS FOR GOD SO LOVED



Outreach team witnesses to young Germans at the center of the city.

Rochelle was ecstatic. The 17-year-old Californian had shared her faith with a young German woman on the trolley. Up to this point, the witnessing the Calvary Chapel Chino Hills team had done seemed to be bearing little fruit. They feared that the first service for the new Calvary

Chapel in Stuttgart would include only their team and the German pastor, Roland Krumm. Their pastor, Jack Hibbs, had encouraged them to remain steadfast and just spread the Good News of salvation. Tonight, the young German woman was eager to receive the gift of eternal life. She wanted to come to their church



Roland Krumm (left), pastor of the new CC in Stuttgart and Jack Hibbs, pastor of CC Chino Hills, CA, teach first service at CC Stuttgart.



Norm Witt and Bobby Scanlin pray.

service. Rochelle had just finished praying with her when the trolley arrived at their stop.

As they left the trolley, a handsome, stylishly dressed young man ran after them, yelling. Startled, they waited as he caught his breath.

"Please," Veit said, "I would like to know what you were telling that girl on the trolley about God."

"I'll tell you everything you want to know," piped in Norm Witt. "I can tell you how you can spend eternity in heaven with Jesus."

The men stayed and shared with Veit. He seemed amazed to discover that Jesus had died for the affluent like himself, as

well as the poor. He received Jesus into his life that night. Eager to soak up the Good News, he spent the next several evenings sitting on the front row at the new Calvary Chapel. The emptiness that had overwhelmed him days before was replaced with a hunger to learn more about Jesus.

nel pass through the city.

Lt. Col. Steve Keller and his wife Angie first noticed the outreach team in Stuttgart's renowned Christmas Mart. The career Army family had been reluctant to leave their Calvary Chapel in Arizona where Steve had been involved in Sunday



Kelsey McCormick, Britt Merrick, and Rochelle Tessone play with German child.

Pastor Jack has brought short-term mission teams to Germany for the past four years. Their overseas efforts to that point had been in Mexico, England, and St. Petersburg, Russia. The congregation has a heart to serve in missions, growing to the point that Pastor Jack felt comfortable dividing their effort once again. CC Chino Hills has developed a training team that travels to different churches at its own expense, teaching people how to share their faith. They were also instrumental in facilitating the church plant in Stuttgart.

Stuttgart, known as the manufacturing home of Mercedes Benz and Porsche, is NATO's information-gathering post. Now home to the United States command in Europe, thousands of military person-



Men from outreach lay hands on Roland Krumm as he begins to pastor the new CC Stuttgart.



Ollie Dangendorf plays lead guitar while Andrea Kolsch sings for the CC Siegen Praise Band.



School with the youth. They were excited to find this fellowship, since they had not found anything similar to the relaxed Calvary style of worship.

"I could barely sing through the tears at the first service we attended," said Angie Keller. "Having this new church planted has been an incredible answer to prayer for us."

Calvary Chapel Stuttgart now has a solid body of 20 believers and continues to grow.

CC Siegen

Pastor Nick Long, and his wife, Sue, moved to Germany in 1988. Nick traveled through Germany in the early 1980's playing guitar for a Christian rock band. He carries on a family tradition in music; his uncles include famed guitarist Chet Atkins and country legends Homer and Jethro.

Sent out as missionaries from Calvary Fellowship in Seattle by Pastor Wayne Taylor, the Longs arrived and immediately postponed the church planting. Pastor Nick felt God was telling them to pray over the city and wait for His timing. While at the Castle overlooking the city, Nick and his team prayed for months until they knew the Lord was releasing them to begin.

**A wise man scaleth
the city of the
mighty, and casteth
down the strength of
the confidence there-
of.** Proverbs 21:22 KJV

"I feel that Germany is God's prodigal nation," said Pastor Nick. "Through the Reformation and Martin Luther's work, Germany led the way for all of Europe to reconnect with God."

"Germans allowed Satan to nearly destroy the church through Adolph Hitler. No modern nation has ever done anything as systematically evil as the Holocaust. God is running toward Germany to welcome it back. The young people, several generations beyond the Nazis, are the ones opening their arms back to the Lord."

Beginning as a Bible study, the growing body of believers needed larger accommodations and began meeting in an abandoned train station. They soon had



to knock out walls to accommodate the growing ministry. Christian rock concerts attracted hundreds. When Pastor Chuck Smith came for a prophecy conference, and to minister at CC Siegen, the German newspapers hailed the event as a visit from the "leader of the Jesus people."

Today, CC Siegen has moved to their own building which seats 300, although attendance is usually around 400. The Sunday morning service attracts many older adults and young couples with children. There are close to 100 children involved in the children's ministry. Sunday evening is an assortment of young people, ranging in age from twelve to thirty. The church has added a coffee shop, run by staffer Katja Hafer. It is an intricately designed room decorated with a 1930's New York motif. Coffees of every variety and home-cooked meals are served inexpensively. They plan on going to three services unless they find a larger building.

CC Chino Hills and CC Siegen have worked together to send people from Siegen to plant a church in Stuttgart.



Pastor Roland Krumm and his wife, Sarah, were sent from Siegen, where he served as assistant pastor, to serve as pastor at CC Stuttgart. German-born Christian Kleinloch, also from Siegen, had ministered to the youth in Chino Hills, but is now assisting Pastor Roland in Stuttgart. Edmond Cornell, from CC Chino Hills, recently came on staff at Siegen as youth pastor.

One of the first youth events Pastor Edmond planned was at a local bowling alley. Not really expecting to fill it, they rented out all 18 lanes in order to have it smoke-free. The event was packed out with over 150 youth, ending the night with the Sunday evening worship band rocking with praises to God.

After a short furlough in the States, Pastor Nick and his wife Sue were anxious to continue the work God has entrusted to them.

"Being away helps you to see things more from God's perspective," said Pastor Nick.

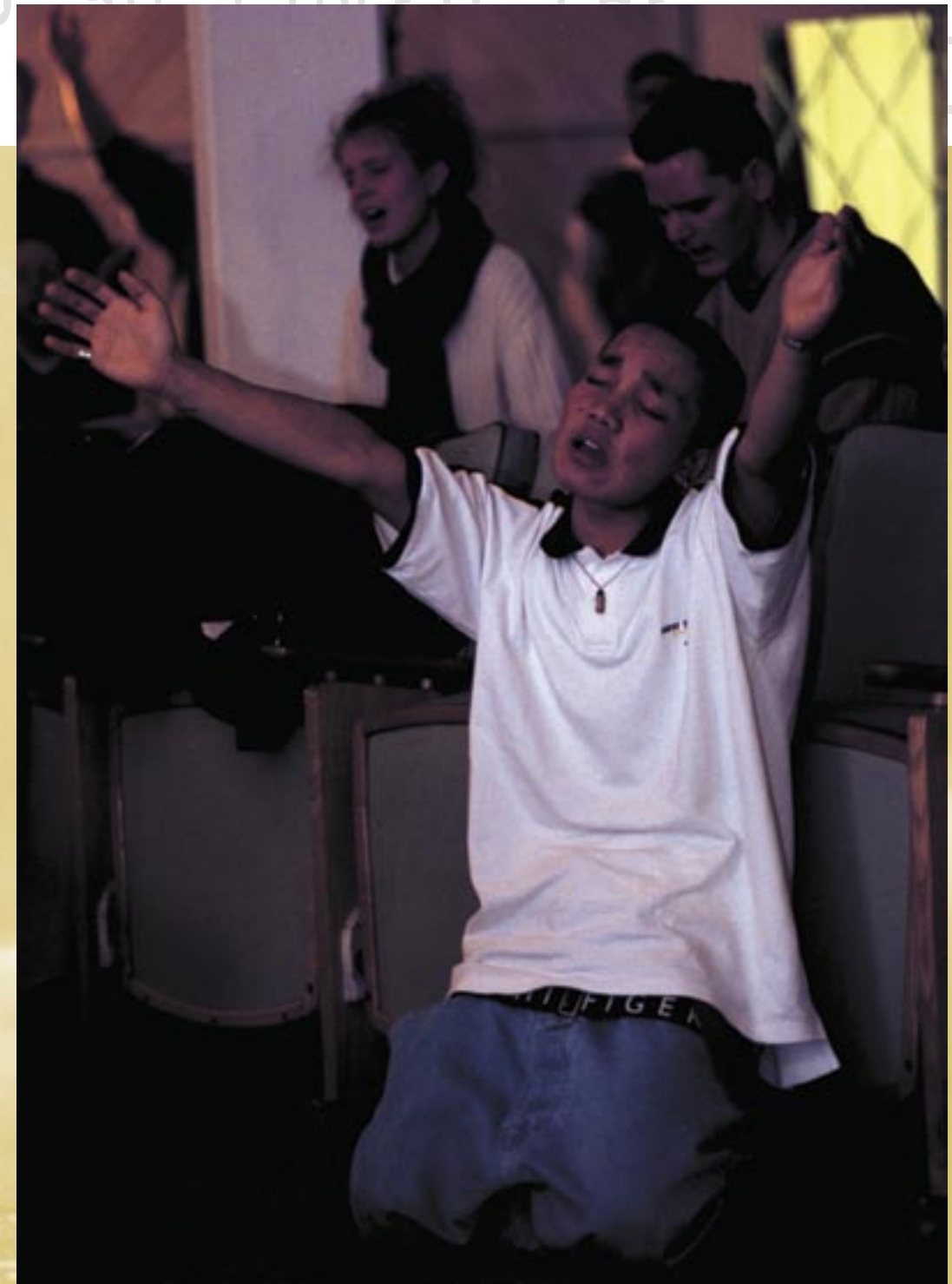
"While we know there is a good work being done here, we want to be sensitive to the plans God has in store. I feel God is beginning a renewed revival through the young people in this country, and we need to be in constant prayer for the direction in which the Lord will guide CC Siegen."

"Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it?" Isaiah 43:18,19 KJV

CC Munich

By Melanie Sita

Interestingly enough, God sparked the beginning of CC Munich through a Bible study made up of international photo models from Models for Christ.



Solomon lifts praises up during afterglow service.



Pastor Nick Long and his wife, Sue, enjoy worship and praise during Sunday service. Sunday night services attract youth ages 12-30.

Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? Isaiah 43:18,19 KJV

"Munich, in the summer, is one of the model hot spots of the world," says Torsten Johnson, pastor of Calvary Chapel Fellowship in Munich, Germany.

Pastor Torsten, who is half German, took over the study in February of 1996. He spent the next sixteen weeks leading a study of the book of Romans.

"By May we organized a two-week outreach along with Calvary Fellowship Seattle, my home church," states Pastor Torsten. At that point, the fellowship officially became CC Munich. They soon moved from a home fellowship to Sunday services at the YMCA. In September 1998, they moved into their own building.

God continues to move within this fellowship as they have come to identify with Pastor Torsten's powerful vision. The key verse of his ministry is

II Corinthians 1:24 NKJV:

Not that we have dominion over your faith, but are fellow workers for your joy for by faith you stand.

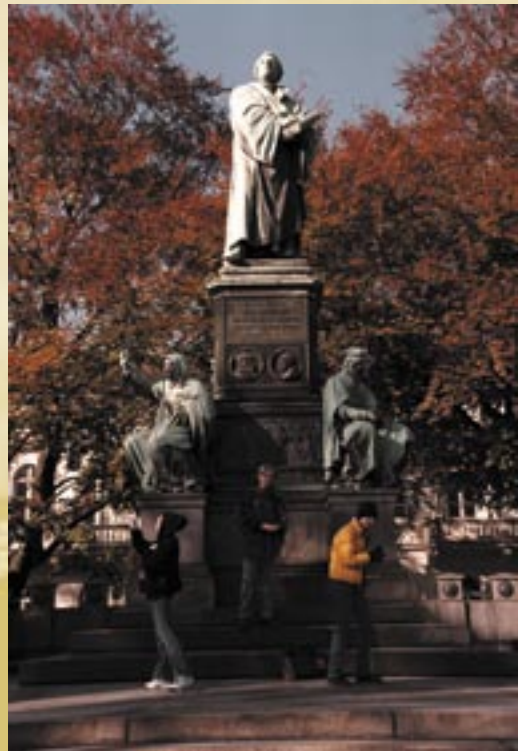
Deep hurt and confusion from various 'works' related teachings had left some broken and bitter sheep. Steffie Venema, who came shortly after the church began, speaks fondly of Pastor Torsten's goal of having "the best fed sheep in Munich. Sheep that know the love of God through Christ, and His desire for us to love Him back."

Through the simple Gospel message, this family of believers has been able to touch the community with various ministries, such as Bible studies, children's retreats, and a basketball camp.

"The camp is held at the YMCA, which is still a strongly evangelical organization in Germany," states Pastor Torsten. "Our



Team members from CC Bible Fellowship in Temecula, CA share with girls from Germany.



Statue of Martin Luther graces city of Gruenstadt.

Photos by Liz Oppenheim



Krista Hubert in Gruenstadt.



Erin Caligiari greets an arrival.

church has also sent out missionaries to Krakow, Poland. They are planting a Calvary there."

After attending a retreat given by Pastor Nick Long on 'Being filled with the Holy Spirit', Pastor Torsten commented, "We have seen God work mightily in the hearts of the people here. Many speak of their desire to serve Jesus full time. At our men's retreat, the guys were on their faces for three hours, crying out to the Lord for His mercy on this city, their families, and for God's cleansing in their hearts and lives. We also have an amazing group of women with regards to their devotion to Jesus. As Calvary Chapel Munich continues to grow both spiritually and in numbers, the church is blessed with a solid core of believers ready to be used throughout the city of Munich and beyond."

CC Hannover

By Melanie Sita

In the early 1970's, an outreach targeting dropouts, fringe groups, and Flower Power activists was started in the city of Hannover by Pastor Peter Wills and other evangelicals.

"We were strong in evangelism, but weak in solid Biblical teaching," says Pastor Peter. "We were left insecure and confused as a result of various teachings from differing dogmatic backgrounds."

"Our first contact with CC Costa Mesa was through a music ministry called Love Song. Some of the outreach members visited the California church and brought back teaching tapes from Pastor Chuck Smith. It was then that we first received solid Bible teaching and a 'balanced diet.'"

In 1991, they were invited to a Missions Conference in Heroldeck.

Ministering at the meeting was Pastor Steve Mays and Pastor Bil Gallatin. The Lord began to heal the fellowship. Since then, God has continued to minister through Pastor Bil and other Calvary

Photos by Liz Oppenheim



Leaving Calvary Chapel to begin outreach in Freiburg.



Above- Steve Oppenheim(rt) and Freiberg Pastor Gunther

Right-Paul and Kelly Campbell worship at CC Freiburg.



teachers. In 1993, they were considered an outreach of CC Finger Lakes. They officially became CC Hannover in 1996.

Looking back on the church's history, Pastor Peter reflects on the words of the old hymn: "Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father, there is no shadow of turning with Thee."* Located in the midst of the 'red light' district, "we consider our ministry a hospital to those who are sick," says Wills. "Even the coffee shop mainly reaches out to the homeless." Though the church consists of many young families, they have remembered their original focus: reaching those on the fringe of society.

Currently, the Hannover church is excited about an outreach at the upcoming Expo 2000. The World's Fair will be held in their city from June through October.

CC Gruenstadt/Darmstadt

By Liz Oppenheim

Two young German women were drawn to a group of Americans playing Christian music. Sitting down on the ice-cold concrete, they became absorbed in conversation with the mission team from CC Bible Fellowship in Temecula, California.

Neither could believe that this group from the United States was taking time to sit with them, sharing God's love. One of the young women confided that her children had been taken from her by the authorities because of her drug addiction.

Indifferent to the busy crowds of shoppers passing by, they listened intently,

One of the young women confided that her children had been taken from her by the authorities because of her drug addiction.

photos by Andy Mauldin
CC Hannover Pastor

Praise team of CC Hannover



Soaking up
God's Word



Auditorium at CC Hannover



then shared a recent German newspaper article with the group. It contended that people like them, with their heads half-shaven and body piercings, were social outcasts. The Germans basked in the attention and genuine love shared by the mission team.

The young women had many questions concerning God. As the sun set and temperatures dropped, they asked for prayer from the Americans, and expressed their desire to visit the Calvary Chapel in Gruenstadt, where the mission team was based.

Gruenstadt is a small community located near the cathedral where Martin Luther was condemned and later rescued. Calvary Chapel Bible Fellowship chose to visit here for their first mission trip, which was organized by Steve and Liz Oppenheim. The young missionaries were amazed as their common bond in Christ overcame cultural differences.

On hearing God's call, Scott and Debi Ellis sold everything and left their home in Antelope, California. With their two children in tow, they took a one-way flight to Europe. "What we did was absolutely crazy," shares Pastor Scott. "It was what the Lord wanted. He gave us the faith." Planning only to come alongside some other ministry, they could not have imagined what God would do. "He used a bunch of nobodies, who couldn't speak German, to plant a church in Gruenstadt and start the study in Darmstadt. That way we are totally unable to take any credit for the work that's been done."

Coming from the Castle in Austria, the Ellis family has seen the fellowship grow from an outreach/Bible study, to officially becoming CC Gruenstadt. It's been a tremendous blessing for them to watch the core group of believers become grounded in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In February, the Ellises turned the church over to Guenther Weber, an Austrian who has worked with Pastor Scott since their first contact at the Castle. He has served

with the Ellises in every area of ministry, including worship, working with children, and translating. Now he will be pastor to both Gruenstadt and the newest outreach (since 1998) in Darmstadt.

Andy Mauldin has been serving at the church since 1998, leading worship and helping with administration. Andy will also be leaving with Scott and Debi, to assist in planting a church in the United States.

"The vision of CC Gruenstadt and Darm-

stadt is the same as God's vision,"

says Pastor Scott.

**Not willing that
any should perish,
but that all should
come to repentance.**
II Peter 3:9 NKJV.

It doesn't stop with Gruenstadt and Darmstadt. I would love to see churches planted throughout the entire valley."

"There is a social price to pay, though," says Pastor Scott. The people endure persecution to come to church. Calvary Chapel is sometimes considered a cult in rural Germany's deeply 'religious' society. It is difficult for Americans to understand how a person lays his reputation on the line by his choice of churches. He expresses how awesome it is to see the Lord work past all the hindrances. As the people grow in their knowledge of the Word and their trust in Christ, they make the break from bondage and a stand for their convictions.

"We continue to stand in awe at what God has done, and long to see Him touch peoples lives far beyond what anyone would have ever imagined."

CC FREIBURG

By Liz Oppenheim

Freiburg is called the sunniest town in Germany. It sits on the edge of the Black Forest, near the Swiss border. CC Pastor Steven Caligiuri and his wife, Erin, host a growing congregation of over 200 people on the top floor of a gas station. During the second Sunday service, the overflow of worshipers sometimes winds down the stairwell and into the hallway.

The Lord has now given CC Freiburg the opportunity to rent a portion of an historic building in the center of the city. The structure was bombed during the war and later rebuilt. It has held a cabaret,

gambling casino, and a movie palace. Currently, it houses a university on one side, and nightclubs on the other. The church is planning to move this spring.

Excited about the inner city location, the team members in Freiburg feel that this will increase the opportunities to reach people for Christ.

One of the ministries in which they currently participate is a teen outreach held in the 'Jazz Haus.' Secular music draws in large crowds of young people. Despite occasional hecklers, a question and answer session allows for many sincere inquiries that lead to the Gospel presentation.

At CC Freiburg, the common bond within the church is their relationship with Christ and their love for one another. CC Freiburg hosted the outreach team from Calvary Chapel Bible Fellowship. One German couple, Daniel and Sabine Weidigar, commented on the teams visit, "We always remember our fellowship with great joy. To see a group of Americans leaving their own homes and jobs behind.... only to serve Jesus, in a bewildering culture, spoke to our hearts."

*Chisholm, T.O., Runyan, William, *Great is Thy Faithfulness*, Tabernacle Hymns, number four, 1955.



Children ride a miniature train in the Christmas Mart in Stuttgart.



Horse-drawn carriage transports tourists in historical German city of Rothenburg.