

Evening conversations...

"...with GOD."

You have been hearing about and praying for Val for about a year now. When they went to study abroad, we started reading a faith-based book together because they wanted to learn more about Jesus. We have been slowly reading John together throughout quarantine, which has been so much fun! The last time we met Val called their prayer time their "evening conversations with GOD." They talked about how great it was that GOD already knew what is in their heart...that they didn't have to explain the background of a problem or a celebration because GOD "is like a close friend who just knows." Val helped me remember that day to treat my prayer time like the *conversation* it needs to be...allowing space for a response from GOD because otherwise all I'm doing is talking *at GOD* instead of *with GOD*. I love spending time with Val because our conversations open both of our eyes more to what it means to live a life with GOD.

...on a walk through town.

Fran and I have become close since we started reading a book together back in February. She has asked several times, "but how do you start believing?" She has struggled with missing the faith of her childhood and desperately wishing she could find it again.

Exactly one week ago we were finally able to see each other in person and catch up about life. During our evening conversation on a walk through town, she nonchalantly mentioned how she got into a difficult conversation with someone who "gave [her] a hard time about [her] faith" and how difficult it was for her.

I tried to act cool as we continued walking and talking when I finally asked her, "You know the last time we talked you didn't believe in GOD. Can I asked when you started believing?"

Fran began describing a challenging housing situation in which she was almost homeless but out of nowhere she met a person who offered her not just a "this will do" apartment, but the perfect apartment. "And I realised," she explained, "someone must have been looking out for me and I decided that that someone was GOD."

Internally I screamed, "AHHHHH!!! WHAT! STOP! AHHH," while on the outside I cooly (as is culturally appropriate) said, "I am so happy for you because I

know faith in GOD has been your biggest desire for months." And Fran said, "I wouldn't have my faith if it weren't for you and for Unterwegs. Unterwegs gave me the space I needed to explore, to ask questions, to be a part of conversations about GOD."

So, THANK YOU, because without *YOU* there would be no Unterwegs Freiburg. I pray that you are celebrating Fran's choice with me and will be praying for her faith to grow stronger with each day.

...to celebrate the end of a year.

Partywegs is our end of the school year party where we all get to celebrate the things that have happened in our Unterwegs community during the school year. With all of the restrictions COVID-19 has put on hosting anything in our space, we decided to have it in the Stadtgarten (city garden) and it was a hit. Students let loose. We celebrated teammates who are leaving and students who are graduating. We cried. We laughed.

We were reminded what campus ministry is supposed to be like. And I am *so thankful to our GOD* that we were fortunate enough to get that reminder before the start of a three month long semester break before anther virtual semester for our students.

Check out some pictures below...











Now that we are down to a team of two, we are looking for some people who are open to donating a one-time gift that will be used to cover the Unterwegs Ministry Space rent while we await our future teammates.

If you would like to donate, please click this link.

If you would like more information, simply respond to this update!



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