Reaching the Youth of Slovakia

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This report has been in the making since 2008.

I was 15 at that time. My Dad asked me to serve as a small group leader in our Bible camps for kids. Here, I met three young brothers who lived in a nearby village. Little did I know that all three of them would one day accept Christ, and that one of them, named Richard, would become a faithful part of my ministry team.

This is how it all began.

Richard's parents were atheists. They certainly did not look for a Bible camp for their kids. But they heard about our camps. Reluctantly, they signed up their oldest son, Imrich, for his first "try-out" camp experience with us. It was not the Bible knowledge but a unique opportunity for their son to learn conversational English from the "real Americans", our missionary partners in the camp ministry.



Richard, one of the faithful men in my ministry

Imrich was the first one of the three boys who came to our camp. He was 10 at the time. I can still remember how he bragged about being an atheist just like his parents were. After one week of enjoying the camp, he said that he would surely come back the next year. The following year, he did come back indeed. He also brought his two twin brothers, Richard and Michael (8y/o).

All three of them became our regular campers each summer. First, it was Imrich who accepted Christ. To our amazement, his parents did not object to his new faith in Jesus and to his witnessing about Him. What was it that kept these brothers coming to our camps? They said that it was love that they felt here. I must agree that it was a lot of God's love radiating from our teams of American and Slovak volunteers. All three brothers also attended secular camps for kids of military families, so they knew how to compare the two and decide correctly.

Last year, it was my joy to baptize these dear twin brothers, Richard and Michael. Their parents would not permit them to be baptized as children, but now that they are "officially" adults, they were OK with it. They also came to the baptismal service.



Three brothers, Imrich, Michael and Richard participating in our Bible Camp in 2010.



Richard and Michael at their baptism last year. Ema and Nina are a tremendous asset in our ministry as well.

Over the last two years, the Lord has been using Richard in a great way because of his faithfulness, love and passion for God's work in his heart. He cares for people and shares Christ with his friends. It has been a blessing for me to disciple him and to be his mentor. We are in touch mostly every day. I will appreciate your prayers for him as we seek God's leading for his future and for the way how he can use his gifts in the work of the Lord and in the harvest that is plenteous in Slovakia.

Richard is one of those men that I look at through Apostle Paul's word to Timothy, when he said: "And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also." 2 Tm 2:2

Again, dear Brothers and Sisters, please accept my words of gratitude for trusting me as your co-laborer in Christ and for partnering with me in reaching the youth of Slovakia. I deeply appreciate your prayers and support.

For His Glory,

Mark Abrman

Your Missionary in Slovakia