

# Botho and Gisela Heinz

Dear Prayer Partners,

March 2010

The first month of Spring has arrived during this month of March, but it doesn't look like it in Germany. Just last weekend, we had another heap of snow (8 inches) and the temperature at night dropped to 10F. This is quite a contrast to Alabama, where we were during the month of February. Even when our friends stated that it has been the coldest winter in Alabama in 40 years, it felt like Spring for us (coming from 3 feet of snow and going home to even more snow). The reason for our trip to the States was to share all the mighty things that God does in Europe. Our time was very blessed because we experienced the love of dear brothers and sisters who care and pray for us.

Since Botho has been going to Eastern Europe for 20 years, we thought this would be a good time for a review of the background. When World Reach-Europe was founded, our vision was for East Germany. But, God's vision went much further east. We wanted to help churches in the former socialistic part of Germany but God's plans were much more challenging. Stories about Bible smugglers, underground churches and persecution always gave Botho the 'creeps'. He never longed to join up with those believers. Then, God sent him to the countries where those things happened under communism and we experienced how God supports, sustains, blesses and cares. Weird situations always turned out for the best. God's presence was and is always so tangible.

We always wanted to reach out to our own people. (Both of us were with different mission organizations that were reaching out to Germans before we were married.) God extended our vision and gave us additional experiences we never dreamed of: A trip to Africa and dear friends in the USA. He also taught us the differences in cultures. Just this week, we had to realize that planning, making definite appointments and creating a schedule does not mean the same to a German and a Romanian.

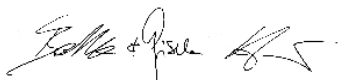
An appointment can always be a matter of change for the Romanian. So, we arranged for the visit before Botho bought his ticket . . . but when he arrived for the lessons at the Bible College, the students were not there. They had prolonged their vacation without telling him. This time, the Romanians had taken advantage of a teacher. They said that he would be welcome to come any time after that week. Well, that messed up Botho's plans for late Fall. Fortunately, he could rearrange all the ministries, but with the side effect that we will not be together the month of November.

Most of all, we are grateful to see how God has led and blessed us over the years. Botho's ministry is a service and, if he does his job well, he will eventually be without a job. (*This is the focus of World Reach – that the nationals will be equipped to do the job.*) So, we need your prayers for further guidance. We thank God that we already have the possibility to go to Astrakhan/Russia and to finally start a ministry in Germany. In all the different aspects of the ministry – opportunities, travel, health, finances – we need your prayers. We have experienced that He answers!

Botho is flying to Sibiu/Romania to teach for two weeks at the Bible College there. His subjects will be "Cults" and "Historical Background of the New Testament". During the weekend between the two weeks, he will conduct a seminar on "Revelations" at a young church nearby.

We thank you for your love and ask God to bless you.

Yours,



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