

# *Botho and Gisela Heinz*

Dear Friends,

August 2007

Well, half the year has already passed and now it is August. In May, Botho went to Yalta. Following that was the preparation and fundraising for the Children's Camps conducted every year by TSS (Theological Teaching Service). This summer, a new location was added to the program in Orel, Russia. We are very grateful that God answered your prayers and provided all the needed funds in spite of somewhat disappointing circumstances. The camp in Orel was difficult because it was a totally new project for the members of the staff. In addition to that, it rained a lot. You can imagine what this meant when most of the activities were planned for the outside.

The next camp took place at Batziseran in Crimea. Children from Yalta and other cities were invited, most of them non-believers. The first Sunday after the camp, fruit could be seen when several of the children that had received Christ into their lives during the camp attended Sunday School. Two more camps started on August 20 in Crimia and Vinnizia (Ukraine).

When Botho was in Yalta, he told the church there that the teaching sessions of the Evening Bible School would be finished because the attendance had declined significantly over the last several units. Of course, Jesus cares about every single believer, but the mission also has to look at the costs, such as flight tickets and used vacation days of the guest teachers, etc. The leaders of the church understood the problem but asked for time to think it over. Two months later, Botho received this letter from the pastor:

*"Dear Botho,*

*Beg your pardon that I didn't write you at the end of June or the beginning of July, but we talked about all questions until now. I thought it was important to talk about it with all leaders in the church. And now we all came unanimously to the decision that all elders and leaders of all groups in the church should have a spiritual training to do their ministry competent and with authority, especially when God provides us with a Bible School right here in Yalta. We announced our decision in church and recommended that everybody who ministers in church or wants to minister, no matter in which position, should have this training. Many agreed. Of course, we offered the program also to all other church members."*

There was a list of 19 brothers in the letter and the remark that some Sunday School teachers and other church members also want to enroll in the program. The setting will change a little because the working situation and living circumstances have changed over the years in Yalta. The lessons will be all day, Thursday through Saturday, 5 times a year.

The big question and headache was for Botho: *Would it be possible to find enough teachers within such a short period of time who were flexible enough to schedule a trip on short notice?* In addition, his own calendar was already pretty tight. What happened then can only be called a wonder! Within one day, the curriculum was set for the next year. We want to give it to you as a prayer request and a matter of thanks:

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|--------------------------------|--|---|
| • November 1-3, 2007           | Apologetics and Cults<br>Pneumatology                      | Botho Heinz<br>Botho Heinz                          |
| • November 29-December 1, 2007 | Character and Commission of the Church<br>The Church Today | Rainer Ebeling (TSS)<br>Rainer Ebeling              |
| • February, 2008               | Homiletics ( <i>Double Unit</i> )                          | Mihael Britsin (Ukraine)                            |
| • March/April, 2008            | Ethics<br>Methods of Exegese                               | Stephan Pues (Germany)<br>Nils Fastenrath (Germany) |
| • May, 2008                    | Biblical Pastoral Care<br>Spiritual Growth of Christians   | Nino Rosta (Italy/Germany)<br>Nino Rosta            |

Botho looks at it as a wonder that within a few hours the curriculum could be put together. Of course, several phone calls were necessary.

Now we will have some time off and go to the beach. We will be back the middle of September. In October, Botho will teach again at the Bible College in Selimbar near Sibiu, Romania.

We thank you from our hearts for your prayers and support. Both are so important, especially with the strong Euro that leads to a bad exchange rate. We wish you God's blessings.

Love,



Botho & Gisela

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