

Update on . . . Sally Barrett



Daleville Christian Church Supports Missionary Sally Barrett

Daleville Christian Church (Independent) is helping to support a local missionary to Eastern Europe. Sally is a graduate of Yorktown High School and Ball State University. She is the niece of Pat & Diana Schlegel, and the grand-daughter of Marjorie Schlegel. She serves with Cru as International Campus Staff in Ljubljana, Slovenia. Cru is the name of Campus Crusade for Christ international in the US.

Update from Sally:

In January I attended our Eastern Europe and Rusia Conference. It takes place every four years. This year there were over 800 staff members in attendance. During the conference we joined together in worship (which I helped to lead along with 3 other Americans, 2 Croatians, 2 Hungarians, and a Moldovan. We heard from the first western missionaries with Cru to go into Eastern Europe back in 1977, as well as speakers like Bacho Bordjadze and D.A. Carson. Staff members in Ukraine shared about what has taken place in their country since the war broke out between them and Russia. We came together in prayer as the Ukraine and Russian country leaders prayed for one another's country. We even got to learn about the cultures of other Eastern Europe countries. And we had the opportunity to hear stories of what God is doing in the other countries in Eastern Europe.

Here is an incredible story from the conference (I am not able to disclose the country's name) but it is a great reminder that the Lord's timing is perfect. He is at work everywhere and he graciously allows for us to be a part of it. In one of our countries they have been going around to every village showing the Jesus Film in homes. Two staff members came to a village and were going from house to house, inviting people in the community to the showing of the film. They came to a house that was lit inside but when they knocked on the door no one answered. It was unlocked so they decided to go ahead and peak their heads in (that is determination When they entered the living room they saw man standing on a chair with a noose around his neck. Calmly they made their presence known and invited the man to come with them to see this video of Jesus' life. The man agreed and went to see the film. Afterwards they walked with him back to his home and he expressed his reasonings for why he had wanted to kill himself. They sat with him that evening and told him more about Jesus and he decided against killing himself and instead became a believer of Jesus. God's timing is amazing to me.

From the Pastor

Christianity, America, and Islam

Let us admit that the questions have gotten complicated. We know that Christianity is not ONE thing. There are branches, denominations, quasi-church organizations and more. Islam is not one thing either. There are radical Muslims (followers of Islam). There are also radical Christians (or so they call themselves Christians) and they sometimes get media attention. They give Christianity a bad name and gives others a reason to want to ban Christianity in the American public arenas. But what makes a radical Christian? What brings a protester of abortions to turn to bombing abortion clinics? Do we know? So, when we ask what makes a Muslim into a radical Muslim, we must also scratch our heads. Now we are finding people who are not particularly religious at all finding sympathy with radicals and joining them. (Personal connection: I had a cousin who was a part of a Christian cult that bumped up against the law back in the 1980s.)

In the America I know and love, Christianity is accorded wonderful freedoms. The same is true for all religions (but not all their practices, as just mentioned). However, I intend to proceed with caution and would recommend the same for all Americans. Were not the Boston Marathon bombers some sort of dissident Russians? Can home grown radicals be prevented? Christians in America, reading of a history of persecution in their Bibles, appreciate freedom. Islam, traditionally, has not been interested in freedom (Consider, for example, the issues of equality of women is Islamic countries. There is almost none.) We must proceed with caution in dealing with a tradition that is not interested in freedom. We must be cautious Christians and cautious Americans.

Peace

Gans