

2018 FTTA-XB Gospel Trip
Report – (3)
May 21, 2018

The FTTA-XB gospel trip concluded this week with trainees returning to Boston on May 21. Trainees who went to Germany concluded with a blending conference in Berlin, Germany. It was a re-speaking of the International Chinese speaking conference in February and the title was “The Goal of the Lord’s Recovery—to bring forth the One New Man.” There were a total of 565 saints in attendance and 15 countries represented from all over the world. There were 462 saints from all over Germany, 82 Farsi speaking saints and 21 Arabic speaking saints. A special fellowship was given during this time. The way the Lord spread in the book of Acts was through migration. For us to be those who follow the Lord, we need to get out of our culture and habit. Although there are many who have migrated to Germany for the Lord’s move in recent years, there are still very many cities without the testimony of Jesus. From the gospel trips in October and November and through the fellowship of the brothers, a list of 25 cities with positive responses was created. These cities are all surrounding the major cities in Germany that already have a number of saints. There was a burden released that we would open to the Lord as the Head and allow Him to touch us and possibly give us a feeling concerning migrating to these cities so we could plant church trees there. There was also a burden released for the blending among all the saints in Germany. For this, the Lord has provided a property called Gut Elim, a 25 acre property that is 12 kilometers away from the exact center of Germany. All the major cities surrounding Gut Elim range from a distance of only 1.5 to 4 hours away—this can release much blending! This past November there was the first university conference in the past 15 years. The brothers’ hope is that this year Gut Elim can be used for this year’s conference, which will be held for young adults between 18-30 years old. The burden is that these saints could be trained and equipped to bear the burden together.

Dusseldorf

Our Final week in Düsseldorf was very busy, but also very normal and full of enjoyment. Our days always started with enjoying the Lord with the saints serving in Düsseldorf. On a couple mornings we received fellowship from brother Tom Goetz and brother Chris Wilde. They were burdened that we serve with a commission, with a schedule, and with other saints, in a builded way.

In the afternoons and evening we did a lot of traveling! The area around Düsseldorf has several scattered saints and students. Sometimes we would travel nearly 2 hours both directions to visit a saint for an hour, but every time we left refreshed and filled with joy. The saints on the earth are truly the excellent, and it was our privilege to blend with some who are scattered around in Germany.

During our visits to the saints' homes and the campuses we spent time with several Farsi speaking saints. Many of these dear believers were newly saved or recently contacted by the saints. Their testimonies are so precious!

Prayer Burdens:

- The Farsi speaking saints. Pray that some local saints would rise to care for them. Pray for the Lord to break through the language barrier so that these ones would learn to touch their spirit in Farsi.
- The saints (those serving full time and the working ones) to be grouped together for blending, for service, and for shepherding.

France

The resumption of the Table in Strasbourg took place on May 13, 2018. Because many of the saints were involved in the practical details of it and already had their hands full taking care of other matters, we took a turn in our time spent in Strasbourg and visited the local saints, especially the ones meeting in Strasbourg that has to commute for a long time just to meet us weekly. On Tuesday, we visited a family in Lautenbach, Germany which is about a 30-min drive from Strasbourg. The following day, we went to Seingbouse, a village north of Strasbourg that is about a 1.5-hr drive from Strasbourg, to visit another family. After having visited many saints, one local saint was touched by our constant visitations and said that although he lives in Strasbourg, he never took the opportunity to blend with many the saints outside of the meetings but through our visitations, he is now encouraged to be proactive in seeking out blending and fellowship outside of the weekly meetings. In addition to visiting local saints, there were some who were already taking care new ones. Since we had more free time than the local saints, we took the opportunity to pick up their burden and began to take care of the new ones that were under their care as well.

Then from May 18th-20th, we spent our time in Paris. We distributed in Cité Internationale Universitaire de Paris, which is a residence Housing that houses around 6000 students. On Saturday, 18 Bibles were distributed and about 5 prayed to receive the Lord. There were also 5 who wanted further contact with the saints. There were only 8 saints (including 4 trainees) that were available to distribute Bibles but on Lord's day, there were about 20 saints that participated in that time. Because there were many saints that participated in the distribution, some distributed Bibles by the Tram stop, which is next to Cité Universitaire. On Lord's day, there were close to 60 Bibles that were handed out and many wanted further contact with the local saints. One young man prayed to receive the washing of the Lord's blood and to receive the Lord Himself into him. There was also one man who was already holding a Scofield Study Bible and we asked him if he would like a free Recovery Version Study Bible. Initially, he only wanted one but then he asked if he could have another one. He ended up receiving 3 copies because he wanted to give the third one as a gift!

After the Bible distribution, there was a love feast and a time of blending. The general feeling after this time was that many local saints now have a burning heart for the gospel and would

like to have a gospel preaching living in Paris. For this to be carried out, they would like to have a regular time to go out corporately to preach the gospel.

Prayer Burdens:

- The fire for the gospel would continue to burn in the saint's daily life in Paris as well as a regular set time to preach the gospel corporately.
- Blending among the local saints outside of the weekly meetings for the carrying out of the house-to-house church life in Strasbourg as well as the release of adequate care for the new ones.



Frankfurt

Monday- May 14, 2018

Today, we went on campus to talk to students in the cafeteria. In the afternoon, there was Bible study with 3 students. In the evening, we ran into one of the students from the Bible study, Josef, on campus and invited him over for dinner. His mother is German and his father is Turkish. His mother is a Christian and his father is Muslim. He was born in Frankfurt, and at age 14 he had to choose whether be Muslim or not. He was scared for this day, so he prayed a lot to God and seeking Him as to who He was and whether He was real or not. He said that God gave him a clear mind and he realized that Jesus Christ was God. So at age 14, He told his father that Jesus Christ was his king. As we were fellowshiping we began to talk about the Word of God. He said that if you want to know God, you have to read the Bible and that He wants to improve more on letting God take over his life. We played some games together and then we ended the evening singing two hymns together- Amazing grace, and Just taste and see. The time was a very spontaneous and sweet time. He spent the whole evening with us and was very happy when he left.

Prayer burdens:

- Pray for Josef- that the Lord to capture Him for His testimony here in Frankfurt. Pray that He would continue to taste the Lord in His Word and in the ministry and that he would receive the proper care

Tuesday- May 15, 2018

After coordination, we went to Heidelberg to distribute Bibles today. During coordination, we were praying for many seeking ones to stop to have conversations with us. The Lord really answered our prayers. We passed out about 150 Bibles, and many people gave us their contact information wanting to set up appointments to read the Bible together. There are 3 sisters in Heidelberg that live there now.

Prayer Burdens:

- Pray for the beginning of the church life in Heidelberg and for some brothers to come to Heidelberg

Wednesday- May 16, 2018

Today we went to Mainz to distribute Bibles. Again, our prayers during coordination were that we would establish solid contacts who would be interested in meeting with us again. Some of the saints stayed behind to help a couple (M+K) get their visa so that they may come to the summer training. In Mainz, while some of the trainees and local saints were distributing Bibles in the city center, the brother trainees met a contact from last week named Nathanael, a very positive contact. That evening, a couple who have been meeting with the saints for the past few months invited us over to their home for a meal. This was the first time that they had opened their home to the saints. This time was a sweet time of fellowship in which we were able to open to one another. I believe that they were encouraged to see ones their age who desire to serve the Lord.

Prayer burdens:

- Release the visa for M+K to come to the summer training
- Nathanael- Release more appointments and contact with the saints
- M+P- Continue to renew their mind and cause them to know their spirit and not be confused with their soul.

Thursday- May 16, 2018

We stayed in Frankfurt today to follow up with any contacts we had met since we would be leaving for the Berlin conference tomorrow. We really feel that the enemy is fighting. One contact who had been planning to meet with the brothers cancelled the appointment for the second time because he got food poisoning from the restaurant he went to the night before. Another student who have been very positive and was planning on going to the Berlin conference thought that the conference was the following week and so was not able to come

to the conference this weekend. May the Lord continue to grace the saints to shepherd all of these students.

In the evening, some of the local saints in Frankfurt took the trainees to a restaurant to thank us for our labor. We felt that we needed to be thanking them rather than the other way around. They gave us each a Frankfurt mug as an easy way to remind us to pray for them in Frankfurt. May the Lord bless the church in Frankfurt!

Prayer Burdens:

- Bind the enemy and his tactics and release the students for appointments
- Supply and strengthen the saints to shepherd all the contacts in Frankfurt and the surrounding cities



Italy

“Those from Italy greet you.” (Heb 13:24b) This past week we have been to both Milan and Turin. In Milan there is a lampstand with about 40 saints. In Turin there are several families with children ranging from a year old to college age. While in Milan and Turin we visited three campuses. Time after time we met students who don’t believe in religion but know there is something deeper than the outward things. They don’t need more religion; they need Christ! We shared our personal experience of the Lord with one girl who called herself an atheist and she described our experience of the Lord as “beautiful.” Another girl asked us why bad things happen; tears came to her eyes as we explained Satan’s attack on man and God’s intention and love for man. The Italians are considering God, but don’t know where to find Him. Genuine Christians rejoiced when they found us singing and passing out Bibles on their campus. One brother said he had waited to meet a group like us for over a year and a half. Another brother came to a couple’s home for dinner a day after meeting us and really enjoyed the singing. He especially enjoyed the chorus “Jesus, precious One, be so real to me. You are all I want; I open wide to Thee.”

But our highlight from this last week was our time of blending with the saints. We would explore, eat gelato, and pass out tracts with the local young people while singing on the streets and on the metro. Several saints joined us in our coordination times in the morning

and in passing out Bibles on the campus. We also had the precious experience of visiting several saints in their shops and in their homes. The saints poured out on us, so eager to care for us and to fellowship even despite the language barriers. Though we were in each locality for only a few days, we experienced genuine blending with so many saints and they have been written on our hearts.

The Lord is truly moving in Italy. We enjoyed the one flow in every city we visited. We passed out a total of 1,673 tracts, 63 Bibles, and 38 Basic Elements for the Christian Life. 19 prayed with us! We are just little members of His Body but we know the rest of the Body has been laboring with us in prayer.

Prayer Burdens:

- A more suitable meeting hall for the church in Milan
- The shepherding of the young people in Vicenza, Milan, and Turin
- The seeds that have been sown would take root and grow
- The Lord's leading us and all the local saints in our care for the students who desire further contact



Munich

This week in Munich we were able to have more appointments with students—follow up appointments with those who were previously contacted by the FTTT trainees and appointments with some new ones we've meet from our Bible distributing. On Monday, we had our last Bible distribution time for an hour at TUM and we sang the entire time! Even though many did not want to take a Bible, we still had an enjoyable time singing to the Lord and ended up passing out 13 Bibles—10 in German and 3 in English.

A brother from Los Angeles who could speak German came to help labor with us this past Monday and a few more saints from Germany as well as the US will be coming to join in the labor with the local saints in the coming weeks.

Some highlights from appointments this week:

-We had an appointment with a sister who was met last month. For two and a half hours we got into the Recovery Version with footnotes and The Basic Elements booklet. Rather than just speaking about doctrine, we were able to fellowship about experience in a deeper way.

-A TUM student that came to the BBQ last Saturday was open to meeting up for lunch this week. She is in Munich only for a semester but it was encouraging to see a college student bringing in the Lord in any conversation. She testified that the Lord really loves us and that we just need to trust in Him because what He works out is always better than what we could've imagined. She seems very willing to meet with the local saints this upcoming semester.

-After a very encouraging fellowship in one of the appointments concerning God's goal, a newer brother who has been having appointments with the local saints decided to sign up for the Berlin conference for the entire weekend.

-We met a contact at TUM that at first seemed more interested in doctrines that are not in line with the central thought of the Bible. However, through some shepherding, we believe this one has received the healthy teaching concerning the central thought of the Bible that could cause the growth of God in him.

For our last night in Munich, we had the burden to have a dinner for the local saints who are studying at the universities along with some of the new ones we've been in contact with. Since we were leaving, we wanted the saints and the new ones to have some face to face contact. Our main burden was that organically some clusters could be formed among them and that these clusters would become vital and continue to go on with one another and enjoy the Lord even after the visiting saints leave. We also wanted this group to have a way to go on consistently with a local saint so that whenever visitors come to Munich there would already be a solid group that they could join. Because of the situation in Munich with many saints coming and going and the focus being on the new ones, we hoped this time would also shepherd and encourage some of the saints that have been in Munich and a burden would rise up in them to care and shepherd the new ones. Although only a handful of the new ones were able to make it, we still had an enjoyable time singing to the Lord and flowing out to one another. There were 15 people total, 6 were students and 3 were new ones. It was a sweet ending to our time in Munich and even encouraged some who hadn't signed up for the Berlin blending conference this weekend to go!

Many of the ones we've been meeting with and following up with have been connected to a local saint. Our burden is that these ones would continue to pursue, meet with the local saints, and even have a rich entrance into the church life. We hope that more groups could be formed as there are a good number of students as well as new ones on both of the major campuses.

Prayer Burdens:

- None of the contacts would get lost in the period of transition or be hardened, and would continue to pursue with one another and remain connected to the local saints
- At least 10-15 solid contacts from the last 6 weeks of labor here and in the following weeks, that would become remaining fruit

- That all the local saints would be strengthened, supplied, and would continue to enjoy the Lord freshly so their function would be brought out

Stuttgart

Greetings from the saints in Stuttgart. Our highlight from this past week was our follow-up appointments with two new students.

One was with M, a theology student at the University of Tübingen. He got connected with a brother, and they plan to call each other to pray over the summer. Please pray that this connection would develop during the summer, for consistent times of prayer and fellowship, and that the Lord would continue to add to the saints in Tübingen.

The second was with H, new student at the University of Stuttgart who was accepted to the same master's program as a graduating XB Trainee. We saw her twice last week, and during our third appointment, she asked us if we prayed every day. We shared that the purpose of prayer is to contact God and to absorb God. He does not want us to worship Him in a religious way but to have a sweet and personal relationship with Him. He wants conversations with us! H said she had a feeling there was a God but did not know how to meet Him, so we led her to pray! She was connected with a sister who was visiting for three months, and they plan to start reading the Bible together this week. Please pray H would not only meet the Lord this one time, but that she would continue to know this precious Person, that she would love His word, and find home in the church.

Lastly, three new student brothers attended the conference in Berlin. Please pray that the Lord would cover and shepherd these little ones, that the enemy's interference would be limited, and that they would enter into the reality of the word heard this weekend on the one new man.

Prayer Burdens:

- Please continue to pray for the campus work in Stuttgart and in Tübingen. Please pray that all these new ones would remain warm and open and that they would be connected with and cared for by the other students and local saints.
- Please pray the Lord would bind the enemy's interference toward the new ones we have contacted.

Northern New England States

On Tuesday and Wednesday we door-knocked around a neighborhood in Manchester, NH. We gave out 20 tracts, 15 Bibles and 10 booklets. There were about 5 people who wanted further fellowship.

On Thursday we had a table at MCC (Manchester Community College) again. We gave away around 10 tracts, Bibles and a few booklets. The ones that approached us were very seeking and wanted to have further fellowship with us. One student, Cory, had read books by Watchman Nee and had heard about Witness Lee. She was surprised that we were giving out books by these two brothers and expressed a desire to meet us again.

Saturday is when we held the gospel picnic and some saints from Providence came to join and support us in this time. Due to the weather we had to end the picnic early, but got to blend and fellowship with the saints in one of the saint's home. We also got to revisit one of our door-knocking contacts, Sharon, mentioned in the previous update. Our time with Sharon was really sweet, we got to connect with her and her grandson Miles (11 yrs old) who was also open to us. The saints hope to have more time of fellowship at her home.

On Lord's Day we all were surprised to see Cory (mentioned earlier) and her mother join us for the meeting! They even shared in the meeting! Their sharing was really solid and genuine, as if they had been in the church life for years. They expressed a desire to continue meeting with us and even open their home for future meetings! In the evening we had dinner with Cecilia (who we met our first week at MCC) and her friends. The time was really normal and sweet. We got to get to know one another and share a bit of our testimony with some of them. They all seemed pretty open and friendly. We hope to connect them further with the saints in Manchester!

Prayer Burdens:

- Continue to pray for these open homes in Manchester. Such as Cory, Sharon and Cecilia's home
- All the open contacts we made throughout the whole gospel trip

