

STU'S DEUTSCHLAND DISPATCH

Puzzled by God?

Have you ever tried to put together a 1000 piece puzzle? From the first piece to the last, can you picture the process of what it looks like for a puzzle to be completed?

I would bet, *hypothetically of course*, that you didn't envision a top-to-bottom, left-to-right process. More likely, you saw a process that began by building the border. Then, as a few interior pieces connect and are built upon, they turn into a chunk. Soon there is a border with several different chunks forming within and continually expanding until everything is tied together and the picture is complete.

In a lot of ways, establishing a ministry in Berlin is like putting a puzzle together. There is an element of strategy, but it's not as systematic as the little engineer inside of me would like it to be. Some pieces come together quickly and turn into chunks. Sometimes the "right" piece seems to be missing (the piece that you keep checking to see if it fell on the floor). And, sometimes you have the "right" piece but you need to turn it around so that it fits.

In the past 3 months, here are some of the "pieces" that God has added to the Berlin puzzle that I thought you'd be encouraged to hear about:

- A student we have known for over a year placed her faith in Jesus!
- 17 students came to our Fall Retreat - a weekend to process what it looks like to be changed by the Gospel. *Last year there were 2 students.*
- Katie and Julia, a masters student, were talking with people on campus about Jesus and an Algerian student trusted Christ that day!
- Over 40 students, Christians and non-Christians, came to a Thanksgiving party.
- There is a Men's Bible Study with 7 students.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Continue to pray with me that the Lord would provide all of my financial support - 19% to go!
- Pray that God would continue to add new "pieces" to the puzzle in Berlin and thank Him for what He has already done.

Psalm 115:1 - "Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to Your name give glory, for the sake of Your steadfast love and Your faithfulness!"

<http://stusdeutschlanddispatch.wordpress.com>

What's next for me?

Through your generosity God has provide 81% of the monthly financial support that I need!

I leave for New Staff Training on Jan. 10 where I will take two seminary classes.

