

TABLE TALK

SERVING THE BREAD OF LIFE IN BERLIN

Himmelfahrt*

Now that I have your attention, let me briefly tell you my first experience with Himmelfahrt.

We had recently arrived in Berlin. I was taking advantage of a German weekday holiday to mow the grass, intently concentrating on getting it done so I could relax with some of Gayle's homemade iced tea. I gradually became aware that a couple of women who were walking by were loudly scolding me with words like 'verboten' and 'Polizei,' both of which I knew, even with my limited comprehension of German, were not intended as neighborly greetings. I later learned that Germans do not look kindly on anyone interrupting their peace and quiet on holidays like Himmelfahrt-Vatertag. Another more-friendly neighbor later tried to explain in her broken English:

"Das ist da day ven Jesus goes up, und ven Papa gets drunk." In a somewhat convoluted way, the German culture combines the celebration of Jesus' Ascension with an opportunity for men to throw off some of the social restraints of both the long winter and Lenten fasting to pull their Bollерwagons loaded with booze and vittles into a wooded glen for a long night of celebration.

Such is the cultural climate where we are called to minister.

Contrast that scene with the group of men who meet each Saturday here at Matthew's Table for a light breakfast and an intense study of God's word. They have taken seriously the words of the heavenly messengers in Acts 1:11 *"Men... why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."*

Ours is not the task of predicting *when* he will come, but of witnessing to our alien culture *that* He is coming and assuring that they are ready for their own personal Himmelfahrt.



*Ascension Day

It is only through your faithful support by prayer and giving that we can be here!

TABLE PHOTOS



Vinyard Fellowship Appreciation Dinner



Friends Joe, Rica & Korbinian



Coffee Maker Gift by Supporter



Birthday Spanish Ham



We love and appreciate you!

PRAYER REQUESTS

1. THAT THE SEEDS OF THE GOSPEL WE HAVE BEEN SOWING WILL BEGIN TO BRING A HARVEST.
2. CONTINUED GOOD HEALTH FOR BOTH OF US.
3. MUCH NEEDED CASH AND MONTHLY SUPPORT IN OUR AGWM ACCOUNT - #201101
4. CARE FOR OUR CHILDREN, GRANDCHILDREN AND EXTENDED FAMILY IN THE STATES.

We would love to hear from you!

We are well aware that these are difficult times, both here and where you are. We know that many are struggling through desperate times financially, physically and even spiritually. As you have partnered with us, we also want to partner with you. Please let us know how we can be praying for you, your family, and your church. We hold fervently to the fact that the effectual, fervent prayer of righteous people produces great results!

John & Gayle Butrin

Mommensenstraße 17

10629 Berlin

Phone: +49 30 318 01766

jdbutrie@me.com

Gaylebutrin@gmail.com

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