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englisch

My peace I give you!

(John 14:24)

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Build bridges!

Dear friends of the word!

Two teenage girls from Norway had come to visit our town. They had heard of go4peace and wanted to find out more about it. I therefore invited them and a few other young people from the group – including Niko - for an ice cream.

Quickly the conversation was flowing, we were joking and laughing. After two hours, most people had to leave. The two Scandinavians and Niko could stay longer. They next day I asked how the evening developed.

"We had a great conversation!" I read in an email form Niko. "We started to share our views with regards to our faith. During this open and thoughtful exchange a lot of things began shifting. One of us said that he can't believe in God. I understood immediately that it was important at this stage not to say too much but just to be there and to listen. This created a space between us in which my opposite felt entirely at home and at ease, allowing him to express all his thoughts and doubts. I could almost feel it: God was at work! We were at peace – within ourselves and with each other and if I may say, even with God."

Dear friends of the word, in order to give room to his opposite, Niko had taken a step back. His conversational partner was able to express everything and this allowed him to find peace within himself. Suddenly we feel something that wasn't there before. Why can't that 'something' be 'someone'? God – hidden within the peace that he'd promised us through Jesus. I'm convinced, if we give our neighbour what he/she needs in that moment, we bring peace and create room for the eternal bringer of peace to do his work. It's worth to learn to love in that way. "Build bridges!"

For the OnWordTeam

Meinolf Wacker