go peace Building Bridges

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## Listen carefully!

Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear.

(Mk 4:9)

Contact:

Meinolf Wacker Kirchplatz 7 59174 Kamen

Mobile: +49-172-5638432 Mail: meinolf.wacker@go4peace.eu Homepage www.go4peace.eu

## Dear friends of go4peace,

Being able to listen well is a real art that cannot be paid for with money. Especially when life presents us with worries, hardships and challenges, we long for someone who is simply there, someone who listens to us and understands us. The thoughts we had only mulled over in our minds pass our lips when we communicate them to someone. We put into words what upsets us. This makes our thoughts clearer and they lose some of their often oppressive burden. And perhaps the listener will gently ask questions and - through his questions - let us understand our own heart even more. Jesus had told his friends how much the kingdom of love can grow among us human beings if we listen carefully to his words and let them into our hearts. "Whoever has ears to hear, let him hear!" he had told them. In doing so, he invites us to follow the often quiet voice of his word.

During a phone call with a friend who had started a new job, I had sensed how bad he was. Behind all his words was a deep melancholy and hopelessness. He didn't know what to do on his own. I sensed that he needed a brother. That's how I made my way to him. 900 kilometers had to be driven. When I arrived, I saw the old house where he had to live. The roof was leaking badly, there was total chaos on the ground floor; cupboards, tables and chairs randomly arranged. It was freezing. The wind whistled through the windows. No kitchen, no sink, no washing machine and everything was dirty. What a shock! He was paralyzed. I hadn't seen him like this before. Over a hot cup of tea we began to think and plan. Then it was time to clean up. The next day we got nice furniture for his study and his bedroom. After two days, a lot had happened. When I drove back, he had tears in his eyes. Thank you, Meinolf, now I have a home where I can feel comfortable. And I already know the next steps I want to take. Everything will be fine! Thank you for coming!" – **Listen carefully!** 

for the go4peace team

Meinolf Wacker