



XMA
extreme missionary adventures
www.xmaonline.com

**Slovenia
Adventures 2011**

Recently Kirk Lauterbach and I spent a week in the Julian Alps of Slovenia prayer-hiking, prayer-trail running, prayer-mountain biking and distributing Gospel literature. This was a very different experience from my many other XMA trips. Slovenia has a post Christian culture where the people have left the ways of God to live self-reliant with no thought of God or what comes after this life. As Udo, a forty something year old software programmer who grew up in church, told Kirk after a long discussion, "The Bible is nothing but myths and children's stories and I have moved on from that".

Slovenia is a beautiful, pristine place and an adventure sports paradise. In the Soca Valley where we camped people were hiking, trail running, mountain biking, road biking, kayaking, rafting, paragliding, canyoneering, climbing, fly fishing and much more. In the midst of this very healthy, very active lifestyle is a very intense doubt that there is a God - or if there is a God he has nothing to do with me or my life.

Our mission for the week was to hike, trail run and mountain bike through this amazingly beautiful countryside as we prayed for people and gave out literature explaining God's love for them and his desire to have a personal, meaningful relationship with each of them. As I prayer-walked, prayer-ran and prayer-biked past the homes, farms and villages I kept thinking of a couple of phrases from the prayer of St Francis of Assisi, " Lord, make me an instrument of your peace ...where there is doubt, let me sow faith".

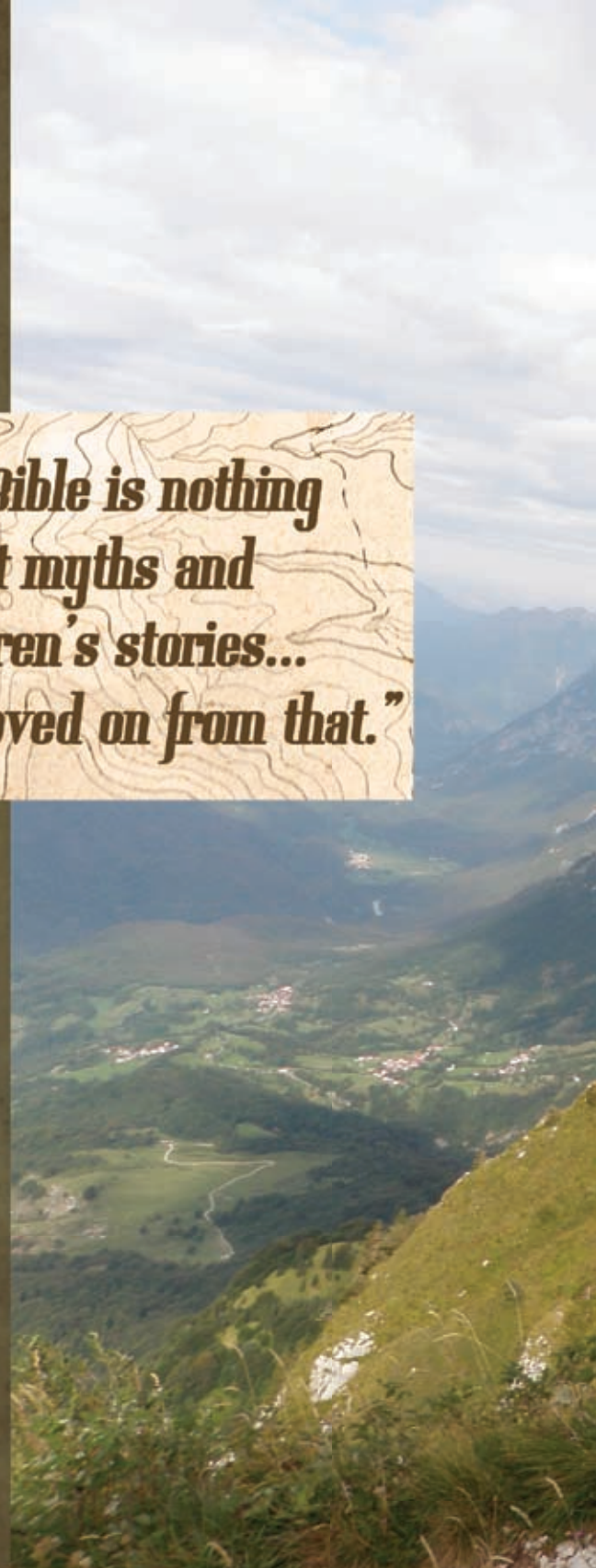
As I've already said, this trip was very different from our usual XMA adventures where we help with physical needs along with sharing the Gospel with those who have never heard. Slovenes live a very comfortable life. They have good incomes, good healthcare, good schools, good food and they live in an amazingly pristine alpine environment. They are content and feel they have no need for God - no need for faith. That is why I found myself simply praying over and over, "Where there is doubt, let me sow faith".

This doubt is strong. The Slovenes coldness of heart made the trip spiritually challenging. Joe, the IMB missionary with whom we worked, told us the most effective thing we can do to reach Slovenes is prayer. He asked us to bring as many volunteers as possible to come pray 'onsite with insight'. He is convinced that the physical presence of Christians praying for and living out an exciting, vibrant, credible Christian life before Slovenes will make a difference. God tells us in James 5:16, "The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective". Faith will prevail if Christians will join in the struggle.

We need athletic, adventure sports enthusiast to return to Slovenia with us as we hike, bike, climb, snowboard, adventure race, ice climb, play with and pray for Slovenes. Check with our office today for info on future trips and how you can join us in this Adventure with a Purpose.

*"The Bible is nothing
but myths and
children's stories...
I have moved on from that."*

Randy Pierce



Pray.
Run.
Bike.
Eat.
Sleep.
Repeat.



Alpine Adventure Sports

Randy Pierce is leading an XMA adventure sports team to Slovenia June 4-12, 2011. While there you will prayer-hike, prayer-bike, prayer-climb and prayer-play while sharing your testimony, and distributing gospel portions and evangelism materials to those you meet along the way. Your objectives are friendship evangelism, prayer walking, literature distribution and discovering those interested in Bible study. On Saturday, June 11 you will have the option of participating in the 10, 20 or 40K Bovec Trek race. Other optional activities include white water rafting, kayaking, cycling, paragliding, rock climbing, mountaineering, backpacking & trekking, hydrospeeding, horseback riding, canyoning, caving, paintball, etc.

Cost is \$3,500 per person with 5 openings left. Contact rpierce@xmaonline.com for more info.

Alpine Mountaineering

Justin Reneau is leading an XMA mountaineering team to prayer trek the mountain villages and alpine lodges of the Emerald Trail in NW Slovenia while distributing gospel portions and evangelism materials to the residents and others you meet along the way. Your objectives are prayer trekking, friendship evangelism, literature distribution and discovering those interested in Bible study. As a trekking tourist you will learn Slovenian culture, customs, traditions and beliefs with the aim to intelligently and sensitively present Jesus to those you meet.

Cost is \$3,100 per person with 5 openings left. Contact jreneau@xmaonline.com for more info.

Alpine Adventure Sports and Adventure Race

Your team will prayer-hike, prayer-bike, prayer-climb and prayer-play while sharing your testimony, distributing gospel portions and evangelism materials to those you meet along the way. Your objectives are friendship evangelism, prayer walking, literature distribution and discovering those interested in Bible study. On Sunday, September 25 you will have the option of participating in a one day multi-sport adventure race. Other optional activities include white water rafting, kayaking, cycling, paragliding, rock climbing, mountaineering, backpacking & trekking, hydrospeeding, horseback riding, canyoning, caving, paintball, etc.

Cost is \$3,500 per person with 5 openings left. Contact rpierce@xmaonline.com for more info

