

The Grotkes

Daniel, Holly, Susanna, Ethan, Molly, Gabriel & Else



Norway

January-February 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ,

Greetings in His matchless name from the land of Nordmenn. While we trust you have an intimate familiarity with the love, power, grace, truth, and judgment connected to the name “the Lord Jesus Christ,” other names and titles can be quite misleading! As we learn new concepts of Norwegian culture each month, terms like Vikings, Nordmenn, Norse, etc. take on new meanings. While your first thoughts may initially be that of courage, resolve, bravery, and toughness coupled with terror, you must fast-forward to the 21st century!

Indeed, Norwegians have maintained a certain happy, prosperous world image, but individually they are like all men: sinners in need of a Savior. Blatant Viking raids aren't in vogue in 2021, but in Satan's subtlety, Nordmenn embrace all the socially acceptable sins this world now says are “normal!” Norwegians are proud of their tolerance (of sin, immorality, religion, politics, etc.) until confronted with the straight and narrow way of God's TRUTH! We deal with years of Satan's brainwashing folks to where they are blind to the light of the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ. We still serve the God of the impossible who opens eyes!

Ministry

This week we reapplied for my third residence permit. We are still working on the rest of the family's. Please pray they will be approved by the embassy. Due to the changes brought about regarding our church, we are now seeing God's plan more clearly. It involves our ability to live and minister here long-term. As you know, God miraculously got us into Norway through an older man and his construction company. (By the way, he has since retired and his sons took over the business. Great guys, but very unlikely the sons would have initially hired me based on experience alone as their dad did!) Although I appreciate my job, it is very demanding physically and consumes much time. In one year we will be able to apply for permanent residency, if I pass the language exam this November. This would allow us to be here without me working 100% required hours. I would be able to devote more time to ministry. I have never flinched at hard manual labor, but wisdom also tells me I cannot work like I did in my 20's for the rest of my life! Pray for God's right balance in these areas. Our current situation in lockdown has allowed me to concentrate more on language studies. We were so busy last year that I hadn't made much progress. Holly is



Support and Correspondence
Bible Baptist Mission
PO Box 17615 • Pensacola FL 32522
(850) 474-6790

Sending Church: Northstar Baptist Church
Pastor Ron Robinson
PO Box 74521 • Fairbanks, AK 99707
(907) 374-8775

Personal Correspondence
truth4norway@gmail.com
(907) 888-2875
www.truth4norway.com

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doing extremely well and believes she can be fluent in another year. She and Susanna plan on taking the B1/B2 exam in May. She greatly helps me with lessons, grammar, and pronunciation daily!

With temps up from the extreme cold it has been for two months, we went tracting in Oslo this week. We didn't know what to expect as far as the number of people downtown. We were surprised that plenty gladly received tracts, but no one wanted to discuss the matter of salvation. Our plan for summertime is to try to tract the neighborhoods in Ski. Please pray for this and public ministry.

Family

As with most missionaries, we have been limited in fellowship with other Christians. This has the most impact on the kids. God has given them all good health, a nice home, and hobbies. Do pray the Lord will give them grace (and Mom grace at home with them)!!

We want to again thank you for praying for us. Only Heaven will reveal when your prayer got us through and kept us going in this battle for the Lord. And many thanks to our generous and faithful supporters. My job here covers the house rent for the month, so we depend on your support for the rest. Thank you for being that channel of blessing and seeing us through these times to what we hope and pray will be an established ministry for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Blessed In His Service,

Brother Daniel and family

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